

# AMERICORPS CAPE COD YEAR 17

June 2016

Dear Reader:

Barnstable County AmeriCorps Cape Cod (ACC) is a nimble, government-sponsored, service-ready organization. Responsiveness to the community is a delicate balance that requires a proactive mindset that is flexible and prepared to respond to emerging needs. It leverages staff and member talent to remain fresh, fluid, and entrepreneurial in its approach. Innovative thinking, combined with training, initiative and dedication have strengthened our community over the past 17 years of the AmeriCorps Cape Cod program.

I have served with the Barnstable County ACC program from 2007 through 2016. I was a member during the program's ninth year and, most recently, have been fortunate to be the Program Coordinator. As I look forward to a new professional endeavor, I am pleased to reflect on ACC program accomplishments. Even more than the 50,000 hours of direct service which members complete in Barnstable County each year, I am proud to know that 42 ACC alumni are living and working on Cape Cod and continuing in public service. These alumni manage land trusts, serve at natural resource management departments, conduct scientific research at environmental non-profits and scientific institutions, teach local students in the public school system, and direct Barnstable County departments. Barnstable County continues to benefit from each individual's talents and desire to serve.

I am proud of the personal development and public service ethic fostered in Barnstable County AmeriCorps Cape Cod members. I am proud of the service that ACC has conducted and the quality program that we have built. Ultimately, I am proud of the program that ACC will become because, each day, its future is strengthened by its response to ever-evolving community needs.

I thank the funders who are the backbone of program success: Barnstable County, the Massachusetts Service Alliance, the Corporation for National and Community Service, and the Cape Cod National Seashore. Special thanks to the ACC Advisory Board, service partners, trainers, and community volunteers who made the current year and all past years such a great success.

Finally, a big thanks and hug to Darlene Johnson-Morris who converted a wild idea into a life-changing public service program. Her message is that opportunity is built on the foundation of personal development, passion, and courage.

Christin Marshall  
AmeriCorps Cape Cod Program Coordinator

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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 Cape Cod National Seashore. The Resource Development Office is responsible for the overall supervision and administration of the AmeriCorps Cape Cod program.



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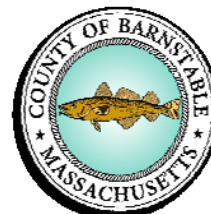
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*The 300 Committee Land Trust*

On behalf of the Barnstable County Commissioners and the staff of the Resource Development Office, the AmeriCorps Cape Cod (ACC) program would like to thank the members of the Advisory Board for all the support and assistance they provided throughout this program year. As a driving force, they help advance and improve the benefits that ACC provides to the local community and its Corps members.



# PROGRAM STAFF



**DARLENE JOHNSON-MORRIS**  
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE &  
AMERICORPS CAPE COD PROGRAM DIRECTOR



## RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE



**JULIE FERGUSON**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR



**FRANCES WEIDMAN-DAHL**  
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT OFFICER



**AMANDA HOWE**  
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT OFFICER



**BOBBI MORITZ**  
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**PRISCILLA ELLIS**  
ADMINISTRATIVE SUPERVISOR



**JAMES ATKINSON**  
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

## AMERICORPS CAPE COD



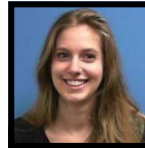
**CHRISTIN MARSHALL**  
PROGRAM COORDINATOR



**ZACHARY O'HALLORAN**  
PROGRAM SUPERVISOR  
BOURNE HOUSE



**AMY HENDERSON**  
PROGRAM SPECIALIST



**JENNIFER ZAKRZEWSKI**  
PROGRAM SUPERVISOR  
WELLFLEET HOUSE



**BRITTANY QUAGLIERI**  
PROGRAM SPECIALIST



**BRANDY MEADOR**  
PROGRAM SUPERVISOR  
WELLS HOUSE

## RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE INTERN



**PIERRE NGUYEN**  
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT INTERN



# RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

## 22 YEARS OF RESOURCES



The Barnstable County Resource Development Office was founded on the belief that common problems can be solved through regional solutions, and is committed to the advancement of grant programs and creative uses of existing resources on Cape Cod. Since 1994, the office has worked to build, strengthen, and expand the capacity and resources of Barnstable County Departments and the 15 towns they serve. The mission of the office is achieved through grant management, grant development, community outreach, and education.

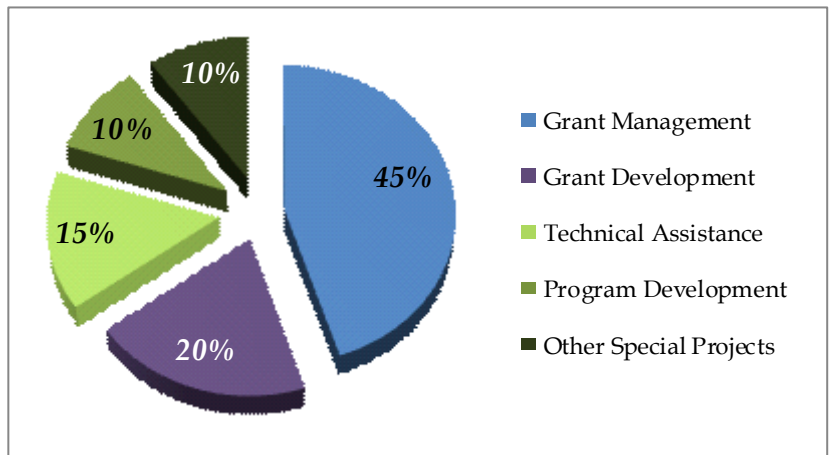


Director Darlene Johnson-Morris



RDO Staff (left to right): Bobbi Moritz, Julie Ferguson, Priscilla Ellis, Amanda Howe, James Atkinson, and Fran Weidman-Dahl

### RDO RESPONSIBILITIES



#### GRANT MANAGEMENT

During Fiscal Year 2016, the Resource Development Office (RDO) successfully managed more than 4.6 million dollars in federal, state, local and private funds.

#### GRANT DEVELOPMENT

During Fiscal Year 2016, the Resource Development Office developed more than 25 grant proposals in collaboration with county department teams. Funding requests exceeded 2.9 M dollars with award notices pending into FY17. As of the end of FY16, the county received \$500,000.

#### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND OUTREACH

The RDO launched new educational outreach initiatives that included quarterly Round Table Information Sessions for County Departments and grant workshops for AmeriCorps members. RDO introduced its new intake survey form, WUFOO, that can be accessed from the RDO website. The Resource Library was revamped by the RDO intern who has also updated the website.



# RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

## HIGHLIGHTS OF GRANT-FUNDED PROJECTS

The Resource Development Office staff works together to manage and develop grants, provide county departments and towns with skilled technical assistance in grant writing, researching, requesting, and acquiring local, state, and federal grants and other critically needed resources. In addition, the staff also coordinates regional projects including the development, implementation and management of the AmeriCorps Cape Cod Program now entering its 18th year.

### RECENT AWARDED GRANTS



**BARNSTABLE COUNTY AMERICORPS CAPE COD**  
*Three year grant-funded regional program*



**You 'CAN' Do It**  
*Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service*



**DON'T LET ONE BITE CHANGE YOUR LIFE**  
*Cape Cod Healthcare Tick Testing*



**2016 AIR NATIONAL GUARD/EXT. PARTNERSHIPS YOUTH CAMP**  
*Summer program for Air National Guard children and families*

**National Volunteer Week**



**NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK**

*Protect, Preserve, Prepare Our Park: Cape Cod National Seashore*

#### PATHWAYS INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The Resource Development Office is establishing a centralized internship clearinghouse for county departments that will provide value-added resources to the county, especially during challenging financial times. The program was designed to aid the county departments in achieving their mission and to provide educational opportunities and professional experiences for young people who may discover their future career paths on Cape Cod.



# AMERICORPS MEMBERS

## BOURNE HOUSE



**Jordanna Barley**  
Laurel, MD



**Nicole Mucci**  
Cumberland, RI



**Amber Carter**  
Boyertown, PA



**Nicole Orzechowski**  
Plainville, CT



**Britta Dornfeld**  
Owatonna, MN



**Bennett Payne**  
Fredericksburg, VA



**Parker Gunn**  
Martinsville, VA



**Breanne Penkala**  
Cumberland, RI



**Lowell "Ben" Howard**  
Columbus, OH



**Amber Rosa**  
Melbourne, FL



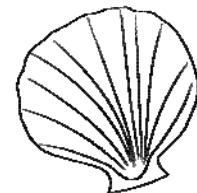
**Rosie Manzo**  
Hudson, MA



**Jeffrey Rossi**  
Northborough, MA



**Christine Viola**  
Melrose, MA



# AMERICORPS MEMBERS

## Wellfleet House



**Lauren Bonatakis**  
South Hadley, MA



**Danielle Lacouture**  
Brockton, MA



**Aaron Brisley**  
Roanoke, VA



**Olivia Martin**  
Jewett City, CT



**Emily Fink**  
Sagamore Beach, MA



**Emily McDermott**  
Bridgewater, MA



**Sydney Fitch**  
Madison, WI



**Matthew Moser**  
St. Louis, MO



**Kathleen Fitzgerald**  
West Milford, NJ



**Leah Mould**  
Rush, NY



**Maggie Gardner**  
Charlotte, NC



**David Ushakow**  
Milwaukee, WI



**Jake Garringer**  
Coeur d'Alene, ID







# AMERICORPS MEMBERS

## WELLS HOUSE



**Andrew Bond**  
Medfield, MA



**James Rynes**  
Akron, OH



**Lars Boyd**  
Eagle Grove, IA



**Tyler Martin**  
Bourbonnais, IL



**Joe Figliozzi**  
Wakefield, RI



**Weston Stitt**  
Charleston, SC







# BARNSTABLE COUNTY AMERICORPS CAPE COD

## COMMUNITY IMPACT, 1999-2016



Since 1999, AmeriCorps members have diligently addressed critical environmental and disaster preparedness and response needs within our community and expanded volunteering opportunities for our community members. In the past 17 years, members have participated in the following activities:

**Environmental Conservation Projects** – Completed 3,455 land and water based conservation projects

**Environmental Education** – Taught 2,135 environmental education activities to 53,879 students

### **Disaster Preparedness and Response Activities**

- Taught 513 community disaster preparedness education classes
- Participated in 25 disaster simulations including the 2016 Barnstable County Regional Emergency Planning Committee Train Derailment Drill
- Staffed each of the Cape’s three opened regional shelters as well as the Multi-Agency Coordination Center at Otis Air Force Base for the first 72 hours during 2013 winter storm “Nemo”
- Staffed each of the Cape’s six opened regional shelters during 2013’s Superstorm Sandy
- Responded to historic 2012 marine mammal stranding events affecting over 175 marine mammals

**Community Events** - Organized and participated in annual events including: National AmeriCorps Week, National Volunteer Week, County Day of Recognition for National Service, Arbor Day, Earth Day, Harwich “Tour de Trash”, Cape Cod Canal Clean Up, Barnstable County Hazardous Waste Collections, Boy Scout Emergency Preparedness Fair, Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, Coast Sweep beach clean-up, Project WET Festivals, and Brewster Conservation Day

### **Fostering an Ethic of Service**

- Engaged 11,458 community volunteers in over 37,578 hours of community service
- Delivered 271 presentations about AmeriCorps, national service, community service and/or civic engagement

**Community Collaborations** – Partnered with over 150 federal, state, county and/or town departments, schools, community groups, and non-profit agencies

### **Building Community**

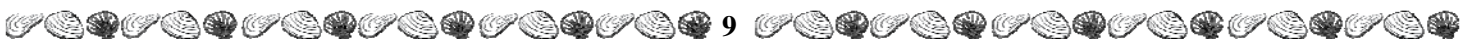
- 96.5% of AmeriCorps members have successfully graduated from the program.
- 106 Corps members have stayed or returned to the Cape after graduation to live and work for a period of time. Forty-two are currently living and working on the Cape; 18 are working for Barnstable County or a Town department.

**Estimated Value of Service  
to the Cape Cod Community**  
September 1999 – June 2016

= **\$21,616,290.00\***

- From Sept. 1999 to June 2016, AmeriCorps Cape Cod members have served a total of 758,010 hours.
- Volunteers recruited, trained and managed by Corps members have served 37,578 hours.

\* Source: The Independent Sector sets the State and National Volunteer Rate each year. (\$29.00 for 2015)





# NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

## OYSTERS, QUAHOGS, AND STEAMERS, OH MY!

A WORD FROM OUR SHELLFISHING SERVICE PARTNERS



### MASHPEE

Since year 1, AmeriCorps Cape Cod has been key to a number of critical environmental projects in the Town of Mashpee. The oyster fishery that was lost from Popponeset Bay in the 1980s was restored starting in 2004 with disease-free seed from the Aquacultural Research Corporation (ARC) hatchery in Dennis. The restored oyster population in the Mashpee River has improved water quality there as the oysters filter algae from blooms fueled by nitrogen loading. Mass mortalities of fish and invertebrates caused by depletion of oxygen by dense algae blooms have not occurred since the oysters were reestablished. Families get high quality local food,

and nitrogen is removed from the estuary when they harvest the oysters. The bay scallop population lost from Waquoit Bay in the 1990s was restored with seed from the ARC hatchery with help from AmeriCorps Cape Cod. Quahog populations have been augmented for family shellfishing. Conservation projects completed by the Town of Mashpee, in collaboration with AmeriCorps Cape Cod, include restoration of rivers for fish habitat, clearing of the rivers for herring passage, clearing trails, creation of pollinator gardens and others have made Mashpee a better place for people and wildlife.

~Rick York, Town of Mashpee Shellfish Constable

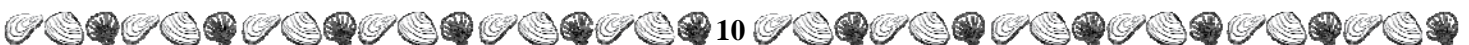


### BARNSTABLE

AmeriCorps has been instrumental to the implementation of municipal shellfish programs on Cape Cod. Over the years, the Town of Barnstable has been the recipient of AmeriCorps' dedication to making a positive difference, and the hard work required to get important environmental projects completed. Shellfish resources get enhanced because AmeriCorps members do all the necessary tasks

that are required to achieve success. AmeriCorps members have assisted Town staffs with preparing shellfish propagation gear and equipment, water quality analysis, culturing and planting shellfish, and contributed boundless effort that all adds up to protecting and enhancing shellfish resources. Thank you AmeriCorps!

~Tom Marcotti, Town of Barnstable Shellfish Biologist



# NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

## OYSTERS, QUAHOGS, AND STEAMERS, OH MY!

### A WORD FROM OUR SHELLFISHING SERVICE PARTNERS

#### BREWSTER

Every year since the program's beginning in 1999, AmeriCorps Cape Cod has assisted the Town of Brewster in many aspects of its shellfishing operation, from culling to propagation to heavy lifting. AmeriCorps members have been vital in hauling out shellfish cages from the water and storing them for the winter. In spring, AmeriCorps members remove cages from storage and return them to the water for shellfish to be grown to legal size for recreational fishing. This tedious and strenuous job, which used to take the town of Brewster and their shellfish volunteer organization, The Brewster Flats, many days, can be completed by a group of AmeriCorps Cape Cod members in a single service day. Their extra hands, young backs, and cheerful attitudes make a difficult task much more enjoyable. With some careful planning, many AmeriCorps members can be utilized to reduce the number of trips to cages to get the job done in a single tidal cycle. AmeriCorps has also assisted the Town of Brewster in culling of shellfish, specifically by removing dead shellfish from cages and separating shellfish by size.

In addition to various group projects, the Brewster Department of Natural Resources (DNR) serves as an Individual Placement partner with AmeriCorps Cape Cod. The member assists employees with propagation and culling, as well as the removal of barnacles from cages and construction of new cages. In 2013, the Town of Brewster in collaboration with AmeriCorps began a project collecting used shells from local restaurants to create cultch bags. The cultch bags were filled by AmeriCorps Cape Cod members

this year and will be reintroduced into the water to create habitat for wild oysters to grow on. In addition, the cultch bags will serve as an artificial reef habitat for other native marine species and will help to reduce erosion. The Town of Brewster grows about 1/2 million shellfish from seed per year, and AmeriCorps Cape Cod has contributed to the growth and propagation of millions of shellfish in the Town of Brewster since 1999.

Perhaps most importantly, AmeriCorps Cape Cod members have served to invigorate and inspire the community members and shellfish volunteers of Brewster. The community looks forward to the new crop of AmeriCorps Cape Cod members each year who choose to dedicate a year of their life to serving the people and environment of Cape Cod. After speaking to Corps members and learning their stories, the Brewster Flats volunteers and the community at large are recharged and hopeful that a younger generation will step in as stewards for our local environment. Year 17 member Aaron Brisley, who serves with the Brewster DNR, supports the notion that "the kids and young adults of today are the environment's future for tomorrow". Brisley hopes that all future AmeriCorps Cape Cod members will continue to show the dedication to preserving not only Brewster's shellfish industry, but the entire coastal environment of Cape Cod as a whole.

~Ryan Burch, Town of Brewster Assistant Shellfish & Natural Resource Officer; Aaron Brisley, Wellfleet House Member; and Nicole Mucci, Bourne House Member







# **NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

## **YEAR 17 FIRECORPS REVIEW**

Since the start of the program year in September 2015, the FireCorps has contributed nearly 9,000 service hours for the National Seashore and other local environmental organizations. The team consists of six members that are housed by the National Park Service on the Cape Cod National Seashore in Wellfleet. Our primary service efforts focus on land and wildfire management through prescribed fire burns. The FireCorps focuses on the restoration of maritime forest systems, improvement of cultural and historical landscapes, and the promotion and increase in diverse heathland habitats.

We have been involved in numerous training exercises, including wildland fire education, GPS mapping and tracking training, and chainsaw training for hazard tree removal. Other chainsaw trainings include tree felling, bucking, limbing, and roping. These trainings have been utilized in daily field activities over the past nine months. Our training began at Camp Edwards in Bourne, and since then we have participated in approximately 25 prescribed burns throughout Cape Cod and burned over 200 piles of brush. Our major town activities include:

- Bourne: Camp Edwards – three training prescribed burns
- Wellfleet: Marconi Beach – three prescribed burns, Mass Audubon Society prescribed burn
- Truro: Highland Center, Mitre Site, UMass Amherst Research Plots (30 year ongoing study), Pilgrim Springs, Highland Light Golf Course
- Eastham: Fort Hill (22 acre burn) and Peniman House, Doane Rock, Salt Pond Visitor Center prescribed burn, Salt Pond Vista land clearing and prescribed burn
- Provincetown: Province Lands Visitor Center Vista clearing and pile burning, Horse Trail expansion

While prescribed burning is a primary function for the FireCorps, we have also partnered with numerous volunteer groups including Friends of Cape Cod National Seashore, Appalachian Mountain Trail Group, City Year Boston, as well as local high school volunteers. Our efforts with these groups included fuel reduction and invasive vegetation removal; this was accomplished through clearing, brush cutting, and chainsawing projects in towns throughout the Outer Cape. While a majority of our service is locally focused in the Outer Cape region, the FireCorps transferred its service efforts to the greater Cape Cod area from November 23 to January 18 this service year. We served various conservation groups and non-profit organizations, and our service included shellfishing, fuel reduction, and intense invasive species removal. Also, within this period, the FireCorps took part in numerous group service opportunities with the AmeriCorps Cape Cod General Corps.

Due to weather that is more conducive to fire behavior, the FireCorps dedicates the remainder of the service year to prescribed burning efforts. Our service hours consist of land management, planning, and execution. Prior to graduation in July, we will serve on an additional ten burns, clear vegetation creating defensible space surrounding five structures, as well as clear three additional miles of vegetation along fire roads throughout the Cape Cod National Seashore. Individually, each member will contribute over 1,700 hours of service to the Cape Cod community. Upon graduation, we will have gained numerous certifications, gathered valuable work experience, made connections with local environmental groups, and also had the opportunity to live and learn on Cape Cod for a year with a diverse group of people from various backgrounds.

~Weston Stitt, FireCorps Member

# DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

## KEEPING YOUR BLOWHOLE ABOVE WATER

There are many types of disasters that could occur on Cape Cod- hurricane, Nor'easter, blizzard. However, a mass dolphin or whale stranding is not what most people would view as a disaster. Unfortunately, these events do happen on Cape Cod with a frequency that does not occur many other places in the world. A mass stranding is defined as more than one animal (excluding a mom/calf pair) stranding within one tidal cycle. The International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) is the local authorized agency that responds to marine mammal strandings, including mass stranding events, on Cape Cod and Southeastern MA.

Currently, I serve as the AmeriCorps Individual Placement with IFAW. In addition to assisting with stranding response, my long-term project focused on preparing for dolphin and whale stranding events. I have analyzed past stranding data to pinpoint common stranding sites on Cape Cod. With this information, I produced guides for common stranding sites, which summarized each site and provided information on access, equipment needs, specific hazards, and logistical considerations.

These guides will ensure that the team can be prepared for specific stranding sites, allowing them to

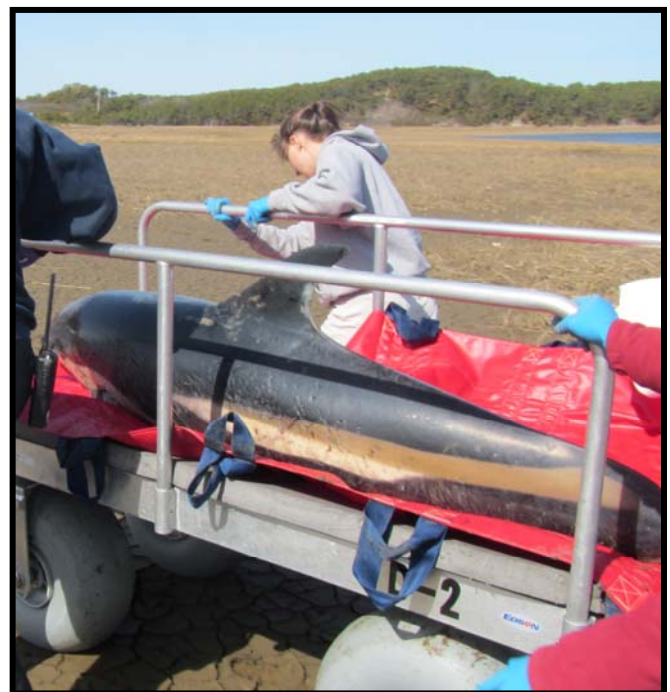
better consider and provide for human safety and be more efficient in aiding stranded animals at those sites.

Over the course of AmeriCorps Cape Cod Year 17, members have also served during two stranding events. The first was a mass stranding of four common dolphins and the second was a single stranded Risso's Dolphin. During these kind of events, the skills and qualities AmeriCorps members possess from our disaster response trainings are invaluable. Members provide site assessments, move animals from stranding sites to the IFAW trailer, and assist with releasing animals back to open water.

Serving with IFAW fits quite well with the AmeriCorps Cape Cod focus area of disaster preparedness and response. Although a dolphin or whale mass stranding is not your typical disaster event, it is important to do what we can to protect marine mammal species and their habitat.

*~Jordanna Barley, Bourne House Member*

*Please note all activities described in this article were conducted under a federal stranding agreement between IFAW and the National Marine Fisheries Service under the Marine Mammal Protection Act.*





# DISASTER PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE

## The 'Whole Community' Approach to Disaster Preparedness

One of the four focus areas of AmeriCorps Cape Cod is disaster preparedness and response. While AmeriCorps members will always be ready to respond to cataclysmic events with poise, passion, and service, the ultimate goal is to enhance the resiliency of Barnstable County by developing a 'whole community' approach to emergency management.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) broadly defines 'whole community' as a way for residents and government officials to collectively assess the needs of the community and determine the best course of action to combat an emergency. AmeriCorps members serving with the Barnstable County Regional Emergency Planning Committee (BCREPC) and the American Red Cross have taken steps to develop a 'whole community' approach for Barnstable County. During disasters, AmeriCorps Cape Cod serves Barnstable County by staffing the emergency shelters and the Multi-Agency Coordination Center (MACC), the communications hub, to allocate resources based on community needs. While shelters were not opened during the 2015-2016 winter, the MACC was opened during winter storm Mars on February 8, 2016.

The member placed with the American Red Cross has implemented the 'whole community' approach by educating hundreds of community members in developing disaster

preparedness plans to combat the hazards on Cape Cod. The presentations not only informed the vulnerable populations of Barnstable County about how to stay safe during an emergency, but also emphasized to community leaders the importance of ensuring everyone's safety during a storm.

The AmeriCorps members serving with the BCREPC assisted in planning for disasters by recruiting citizens and businesses to assist the county during a disaster. Members attended meetings with various stakeholders to recruit community volunteers to serve in the regional shelter system when activated. They also assisted BCREPC's Public Information Officer in producing a video for local broadcast used to both recruit volunteers and explain how the regional shelter system operates on Cape Cod. Members also recruited businesses to partner with the county and serve as potential retail locations to which county officials can direct residents during disasters. These efforts have helped include and inform more of the Cape Cod community in disaster preparedness, further implementing a 'whole community' approach to emergency management in Barnstable County.

*~Jeffrey Rossi, Bourne House Member and Jake Garringer, Wellfleet House Member*



Above: AmeriCorps members participate as victims in the Barnstable Municipal Airport, Airport Emergency Plan (AEP) Exercise on October 28th, 2015





# ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

## WETFEST 2016!



As the weather started to change and the snowy months kicked in, AmeriCorps Cape Cod members found themselves dressed as sea creatures at local elementary schools, instead of in long sleeved shirts, pants, chaps, and neon yellow hard hats. During these cold months, the 26 General Corps members spent many group service days educating 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders about water quality, water properties, and the importance of keeping our water clean!

This educational event, known as WetFest, consists of 21 different activities that expose students to various topics including: the levels of our aquifer, how to

measure turbidity of water, ways to avoid polluting our groundwater, and how a septic system works!

The event begins with a skit about sea creatures that are in danger due to different pollutants in their water. After the students visit all of the activities, they have a chance to save the sea creatures by stating facts they learned throughout the event.

This year, AmeriCorps Cape Cod members educated over 1,400 students on Cape Cod! We hosted 11 WetFests at nine different schools, and hope to grow these numbers even more in years to come. As a focus area of AmeriCorps Cape Cod, environmental education is a large part of the program. It is important to educate younger generations about these topics so they can help protect our drinking water, as well as teach their elders. Participating in WetFest is a fun way to spend a chilly service day, and it is never dull when the members get to wear sea creature costumes!

~Breanne Penkala, Bourne House Member



# ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

## SCHOOL GARDEN GROWS SUSTAINABLE STUDENTS

### WIXON INNOVATION SCHOOL

As part of our Individual Placement, fellow AmeriCorps member Kathleen and I serve as sustainability leaders for the 4th and 5th grade students at the Wixon Innovation School. On the first day, I was immediately impressed by the knowledge of, and care for, the environment so many students possess. We jumped right into our roles and spent time each week with the health and wellness class that tends to the school garden.

Seeing the kids get excited about growing their own food is amazing. The garden is small and contained in the courtyard of the school, but full of kale, tomatoes, and potatoes that are cared for by the students. The garden provides various learning opportunities. From taste-testing the vegetables, learning the scientific process of how plants grow, and discussing the importance of buying local, the students are constantly learning new ways to care for the world in which we live. They were very proud to share the fruits of their labor in the garden with their peers.

Throughout the season, the students harvested the kale from the garden and separated it into two portions; they brought the first portion to the cafeteria to be used in smoothies the next day at lunch. The second portion was included in the backpack program, which provides a bag of food for students in need to take home for the weekend. From planting to harvesting, Wixon students are providing for their peers and are excited throughout the whole process.

During the winter, Kathleen and I created a disaster

preparedness lesson plan and taught students throughout Wixon how to be prepared for a natural disaster. Our nature-themed afterschool activity also started in the colder months. With all the snow on the ground outside, we still found ways to have fun inside by making ornaments out of recycled materials, pinecones, and a *lot* of glitter glue.

Wixon houses two Diamondback Terrapins during the school year, and helping Kathleen and me track their growth has become a student favorite. Having the turtles in the school is a great way to get students interested in protecting the animals in our environment, especially those being depleted because of land development, like the Diamondback Terrapins. Students in our Science Adventures Enrichment Course have recently finished constructing their 'Trash Talking Turtles,' a project that raises awareness of the dangers that marine debris presents to marine mammals and sea turtles. They constructed turtles out of cardboard, attached a carapace that is made of chicken wire, and then filled the body with all of the litter and debris they collected.

As a sustainability leader, it is inspiring to serve alongside the students as they strive every day to make Wixon, and their community, a better place. It is easy to guide them toward living sustainably when they already have the enthusiasm to try.

*~Emily Fink, Wellfleet House Member*







# VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT

## CAPE COD CANAL CLEAN-UP 2016

A RECORD HIGH

In the process of planning the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Canal Cleanup, I envisioned a Saturday on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of April; warm, sunny, light wind- all you'd need is a light jacket!

As the weeks went on and Canal Cleanup approached, the weather forecast was not in tune with this vision. Even the night before the event was to take place, I thoroughly doubted the high chance of rain and clouds that was predicted for the next day.

And then it was here, the day many AmeriCorps members had worked so hard to plan for in the prior months, and rain it did.

Only drizzles, but dark clouds cast dreary shadows over the canal for the entire morning. This gloomy day, however, yielded an all-time high of 192 volunteers, not including 32 AmeriCorps members and staff. Volunteers started bustling into the Buzzards Bay

Recreation Area around 9:30 AM, ready and raring to clean up trash and participate in various projects aimed at beautifying sites around the Cape Cod Canal, including the Tidal Flats and Herring Run Recreation Areas. Volunteers could be seen building pollinator boxes, planting in a butterfly garden, weeding and doing trail maintenance, and picking up trash.

While Canal Cleanup is a collaborative event, planned with rangers from the US Army Corps of Engineers, volunteer recruitment and engagement is integral to its annual success. Many volunteers continue to return every April to participate in Canal Cleanup because it's a great

way to engage in their community. Education booths of local environmental organizations volunteer their time to reach out to the community, while entertainment keeps volunteers energized and engaged throughout the entire event.

Organizations such as the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), American Red Cross, SEA (Sea Education Assn) Semester, National Marine Life Center (NMLC), and Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (WBNERR) donated their time to promote their organizations' mission. The Falmouth Fiddlers were also able

to make an appearance this year, along with a new act and current AmeriCorps member, Ben Howard, who performed a magic show that proved to be a great hit.

It's always inspiring to see what a group of volunteers can do if they are all working toward a



common goal. It's especially impressive to see this when volunteers are braving the cold and rainy weather at the canal. Although it's easy to forget that when we see trash on the side of the road or a trail in need of maintenance, people do care about and want the best for their communities. Volunteer events like Canal Cleanup are an important reminder of this.

Of course next year we hope for blue skies, but know we don't need them to see a record number of volunteers in action.

~Rosie Manzo, Bourne House Member Leader





# VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT

## You 'CAN' Do It MLK JR. DAY 2016



Barnstable County AmeriCorps Cape Cod members recruited 177 community volunteers to participate in “You CAN Do It” on January 18, 2016. This MLK Jr. Day of Service was made possible by a grant written by the Barnstable County Resource Development Office and funded by the Massachusetts Service Alliance and Barnstable County. Groups of community volunteers from across Cape Cod, including Shea’s Youth Basketball League, John Wesley United Methodist Church Youth Group, YMCA Teen Achievers Program, Cape Cod Cooperative Extension 4-H, Sturgis East Amnesty International Club, Brownie Girl Scouts Troop 68118, Dennis Union Church, and students from Oak Ridge School in Sandwich, joined us in service for the day, many returning for several consecutive years. Visiting the Cape for a training, staff and members of the MassLIFT- AmeriCorps program, based in Athol, Massachusetts, participated in our MLK event for the second year in a row.

This event strived to improve the lives of many in need. Canned good donations were collected from willing volunteers to replenish stocks at the Cape and Islands Veterans Outreach Center following the busy holiday season. In partnership with YMCA Cape Cod, volunteers packed 100 bags of food for students in the Hyannis area who receive

free or reduced lunch to ensure they have healthy meals during February vacation. Volunteers also donated winter hats to be given to Cape Cod Hospital patients who are receiving chemotherapy.

The bulk of the event had volunteers constructing handmade gifts from recyclable materials, including jump ropes and flowers from plastic bags, planters from tin cans, bird feeders from plastic bottles, and reusable bags from old t-shirts. Eighty no-sew fleece blankets were put together as well. All of these items were donated to *Children’s Cove*, *Independence House*, *A Baby Center*, and *Cape Winds Rest Home*. Volunteers also participated in off-site projects as well, spending time with residents at *Cape Winds Rest Home*, painting at *CapeAbilities: Lyndon Center*, cleaning at the *Housing Assistance Corporation: Angel House*, and assisting in grounds maintenance at *Dream Day on Cape Cod* in Brewster. The event proved to be a successful day of community engagement and service.

~Olivia Martin, Wellfleet House Member Leader and Rosie Manzo, Bourne House Member Leader





# COUNTY BUS TOUR

## COUNTY RECOGNITION DAY FOR NATIONAL SERVICE

To spotlight the impact of national service and thank those who serve, mayors and county officials across the country participated in County Recognition Day for National Service on April 5, 2016. AmeriCorps Cape Cod hosted a bus tour to celebrate the event. This tour started at the Barnstable County Complex to pick up Barnstable County Commissioner Mary Pat Flynn, Massachusetts Service Alliance Representative Lindsay Rooney, Assembly of Delegates members John Ohman and Ronald Bergstrom, County Clerk Janice O'Connell, Advisory Board Member Heather McElroy, Barnstable County Resource Development Office staff, and AmeriCorps Cape Cod members. The tour proceeded to the Outer Cape to allow tour attendees to observe service sites maintained by AmeriCorps members. En route, AmeriCorps members gave speeches discussing the four focus areas of the program. Cape Cod National Seashore Deputy Superintendent Kathy Tevyaw and Student Conservation Association Volunteer Ambassador Courtney Butler joined the tour. The first service site visited was the Cape Cod National Seashore at Marconi Beach in Wellfleet. Fire Management Officer David Crary explained the role of FireCorps in managing fire safety at the Cape Cod National Seashore. The next site was the Highlands Center in Truro. Cape Cod National Seashore Park Planner Lauren

McKean explained additional service projects accomplished by AmeriCorps Cape Cod members for the Cape Cod National Seashore. Commissioner Mary Pat Flynn read the Proclamation for Barnstable County Day of Recognition for National Service while at the Highland Center. The next stop on the tour was at the AmeriCorps Cape Cod Wellfleet House to show the tour attendees the residential component of the program. The last service site was Indian Neck Conservation Area in Wellfleet. Wellfleet Assistant Health and Conservation Agent Doug Guey -Kee explained AmeriCorps members' contributions to help preserve the Town's natural resources by preventing man-made destruction to the area. One project included blocking off vehicle access to the beaches and other fragile environments. Another project involved constructing kayak racks at a central location to store kayaks instead of leaving them on the beaches, which can erode dunes and smother beach grass. Overall, the bus tour for County Day of Recognition for National Service was successful and AmeriCorps Cape Cod appreciates all those who participated.

Special thanks to Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority and its staff for providing bus transportation.

~Jeffrey Rossi, Bourne House Member







# AmeriCorps Cape Cod and the Cape Cod National Seashore

During the week of April 11<sup>th</sup>, Barnstable County AmeriCorps Cape Cod (ACC) and Cape Cod National Seashore (CCNS) teamed up for National Volunteer Week with the common goal to “protect, preserve, and prepare our park” for the National Park Service (NPS) centennial year. The week was a smashing success with over 55 completed projects in 14 different locations, 1,085 service hours provided by 31 members of AmeriCorps Cape Cod, 300 hours of service provided by 67 community volunteers, and over \$45,000 of added, no-cost value to the seashore in just five days.

From painting and touching up fee booths, signs, and lifeguard chairs, to planting flora and constructing garden beds, to creating picnic groves and building outdoor education shade structures, the teams tried to hit every nook and cranny at park facilities and beaches to make the park shine for the NPS 100th birthday this year.

Not only did volunteers from our own backyard join in on all the action, but volunteers came all the way from Worcester. Nauset Regional High School Key Club members offered their afterschool time to clean-up Coast Guard Beach; Cape Cod Regional Technical High School students worked closely with CCNS FireCorps to “cut, pile, burn” at the Highlands Center; and local carpenters supervised volunteers on numerous construction and park maintenance projects.

Everyone, from near and far and old to young, served fluidly together throughout the week keeping one

overarching goal in mind – to help make the park we love a better place for all. Volunteers were recruited through numerous media outlets including: flyers, newspaper ads, email, and a Public Service Announcement (PSA) featuring ACC member Sydney Fitch, and CCNS Centennial Volunteer Ambassador, Courtney Butler.

National Volunteer Week would not have been possible without grant funding from the Massachusetts Service Alliance and matching funds provided by the Barnstable County Resource Development Office. These two funds contributed \$9,000 towards the purchase of supplies, materials, volunteer t-shirts, food, and a documentary film produced by Lower Cape Community Access TV (LCCTV).

A special thanks goes out to: George Price, CCNS Park Superintendent; Lauren McKean, CCNS Park Planner; Charles Aznive, CCNS Facilities and Maintenance; John DeFoe, CCNS Roads and Trails Supervisor and his crew; ACC staff, Brittany Quaglieri, Program Specialist; ACC member, Sydney Fitch; and Student Conservation Association (SCA) Volunteer Ambassador, Courtney Butler. They all created, coordinated, and facilitated activities that resulted in a week of accomplishments. A huge thanks to all community volunteers, ACC staff and members, and CCNS staff who donated their time and contributed to the dozens of successful projects that helped to make our park a better place.

~Sydney Fitch, Wellfleet House Member









# 2015-2016 SERVICE PARTNERS

- David Agger**, Wellfleet Cemetery Commissioners
- Deb Albenberg**, Town of Provincetown
- Abigail Archer**, Cape Cod Cooperative Extension
- Red Bansfield**, Barnstable Land Trust
- Alexandra Brandt**, Town of Falmouth
- Pat Brophy**, Family Pantry of Cape Cod
- Maggie Brown**, Eastham Elementary School
- Wendi Buessler**, Oyster Pond Environmental Trust
- Ryan Burch**, Brewster Department of Natural Resources
- Philip Burt**, Barnstable County Department of Health and Environment
- Katie Cadoret**, Mashpee Department of Natural Resources
- Tom Cambareri**, Cape Cod Commission
- Matt Cannon**, Harwich Conservation Trust
- Elisa Carey**, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Nancy Church**, Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve
- Morgan Clark**, Town of Provincetown
- Dan Connolly**, Orleans Highway Department
- David Cary, Jr.**, Cape Cod National Seashore
- Annie Curtis**, Massachusetts Army National Guard
- Ron Dangemi**, Lyme Awareness Center
- Dave DeConto**, Sandwich Dept. of Natural Resources
- Dick Delaney**, Red Lily Pond Association Inc.
- Judy Desrochers**, Meetinghouse Farm
- Lynn Donovan**, Mattacheese Middle School
- Diane Driscoll**, Laurel School
- Michelle Dunn**, Wixon Innovation School
- Kalliope Egloff**, Cape Cod Cooperative Extension
- Ethan Estey**, Wellfleet Herring Warden
- Brian Everett**, Dennis Department of Natural Resources
- Denise Fronius**, Stonybrook Elementary School
- Renee Gagne**, Chatham Shellfish Department
- Patty Gardiner**, Barnstable Intermediate School
- Katherine Garofoli**, Dennis Conservation Trust
- Lev Gerstle**, Center for Coastal Studies
- Kathleen Giorgio**, Dream Day on Cape Cod
- Hilary Greenberg-Lemos**, Wellfleet Health and Conservation Department
- Hilary Green**, American Red Cross
- Chris Gonnella**, Barnstable Department of Public Works
- Doug Guey-Lee**, 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
- Dick Hilmer**, Eastham Department of Natural Resources
- Don Hoffer**, Falmouth Beach Department
- Christine Hughes-Prince**, Eastham Elementary School
- Rachel Hutchinson**, Chatham Shellfish Department
- Betty Hyde-McGuire**, Mattacheese Middle School
- Bill Iacuesa**, State of Wellfleet Harbor Conference Committee
- Kate Iaquinto**, Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge
- John Jannell**, Orleans Conservation Department
- Shannon Jarbeau**, Cape Cod Cooperative Extension
- Bill Keto**, Mary Barton Land Trust
- Kathryn Kmiec**, Wellfleet Elementary School
- Allison Kochen**, SPAT "Shellfish Promoting And Tasting"
- Michael Lach**, Harwich Conservation Trust
- Diane Lang**, The Trustees of Reservation
- Donna Lawson**, Marstons Mills Public Library
- Liz Lewis**, Barnstable Shellfish Department
- Liz Lewis**, Orenda Wildlife Land Trust
- Paul Lindberg**, Wellfleet Department of Public Works
- Cris Luttazi**, Mass Audubon
- Margot Madden**, National Marine Life Center
- Bruce Magado**, Falmouth Beach Department
- Mike Maguire**, Cape Cod Cooperative Extension
- Cathy Marques**, Town of Falmouth Public Works
- Joseph Marshall**, Barnstable Department of Public Works
- Tom Marcotti**, Barnstable Shellfish Department
- Cynthia McCann**, Bourne Middle School
- Heather McElroy**, Cape Cod Commission
- Lauren McKean**, Cape Cod National Seashore
- Drew McManus**, Mashpee Department of Natural Resources
- Jesse Mechling**, Center for Coastal Studies
- Scott Michaud**, Cape Cod Commission
- Elizabeth Migliore**, Orleans Conservation Trust
- Chris Miller**, Brewster Department of Natural Resources
- Hal Minis**, Brewster Conservation Trust
- Dennis Minsky**, Provincetown Conservation Commission
- Susan Moeller**, Woodside Elementary School
- Joelle Mushel**, Town of Falmouth Shellfish
- Martin Murphy**, Taylor Bray Farm
- Valerie Brady Murray**, Falmouth Service Center
- 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
- Gwen Pelletier**, Brewster Ponds Coalition
- Matt Penella**, Massachusetts Army National Guard
- John Pribilla**, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Heinz Proft**, Harwich Natural Resources Department
- Dave Quinn**, Cape Cod Cooperative Extension
- Francie Randolph**, Sustainable CAPE
- Karen Reddish**, Nauset Regional School
- Stephanie Rein**, Sustainable CAPE
- Paul Richard**, Nauset Regional Middle School
- Becky Rosenberg**, Wellfleet Recreation Department
- Sally Rutledge**, Monomoy School District
- Scott Schluter**, Falmouth Department of Public Works
- Kate Shaffer**, National Marine Life Center
- Chris Siwik**, Cape Cod National Seashore
- Francis Smith**, Trout Unlimited
- Marc Smith**, Forestdale Elementary School
- Karen Stapleton**, Forestdale Elementary School
- Brenda Swain**, Falmouth Service Center
- Jeff Thibodeau**, Brewster Conservation Trust
- Mike Thompson**, South Shore YMCA Camps Burgess & Hayward
- Amy Usowski**, Harwich Department of Conservation
- Jamie Whiddon**, Quashnet Elementary School
- Emily Wolfe**, Wellfleet Mass Audubon Bay Wildlife Sanctuary
- Bill Worthington**, Truro Conservation Trust
- John Yonce**, Hostelling International
- Richard York, Jr.**, Mashpee Shellfish Department
- Kathy Zagzebski**, National Marine Life Center
- 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,  
Regional Emergency Planning Committee**  
Volunteer Engagement

**Barnstable County Department of Health and Environment**  
Wastewater Specialist

**Cape Cod Commission**  
Water Quality Project Assistant

**Cape Cod Cooperative Extension**  
Community Rating System (CRS) Assistant

**Cape Cod Cooperative Extension**  
WET Festival Coordinator and Hazardous Waste Assistant

**International Fund for Animal Welfare**  
Marine Mammal Rescue and Research Program Education  
and Outreach Coordinator

**Mashpee Shellfish**  
Shellfish/Water Quality Restoration Specialist

**National Marine Life Center**  
Marine Animal Rehabilitation and Environmental Education  
Assistant

**Town of Barnstable Structures & Grounds**  
Conservation and Way to Water Access Coordinator

**Town of Dennis Department of Natural Resources**  
Natural Resources Public Outreach Coordinator

**Town of Falmouth Marine & Environmental Service**  
Shellfish Propagation and GIS Assistant

**Town of Sandwich Department of Natural Resources**  
Scorton Creek Shellfish Restoration

**Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve**  
Environmental Educator

## WELLS HOUSE

**Cape Cod National Seashore**  
FireCorps

## WELLFLEET HOUSE

**Barnstable County Department of Health and Environment,  
Regional Emergency Planning Committee**  
Emergency Preparedness Assistant

**Barnstable County Department of Health and Environment,  
Regional Emergency Planning Committee**  
Volunteer Engagement

**Brewster Department of Natural Resources**  
Community Outreach and Special Project Specialist

**Cape Cod Cooperative Extension**  
River Herring Research Specialist

**Cape Cod National Seashore**  
Fire Management and Safety Program Assistant

**Cape Cod National Seashore**  
Planning Assistant

**Center for Coastal Studies**  
Marine Debris Outreach and Research Steward

**Chatham Shellfish Department**  
Chatham Coastal Shellfish Survey

**Dennis Conservation Trust**  
Conservation Land Monitor

**Orleans Conservation Trust**  
Land Stewardship and Community Outreach Coordinator

**Provincetown Conservation Commission and Health  
Department**  
Health and Environmental Affairs Project Coordinator

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

**Town of Orleans Tree Department**  
Tree Inventory/Arboriculture Intern

**Town of Wellfleet Conservation Commission & Wellfleet  
Conservation Trust**  
Conservation Lands Stewardship  
Coordinator

**Wixon Innovation School**  
Sustainability Outreach







# YEAR 17 SERVICE PROJECTS

## Water Education Festivals (WetFest)

Eastham Elementary School	Barnstable Intermediate School
Laurel School	School
Monomoy Middle School	Quashnet Elementary School
Mattacheese Middle School	Bournedale Elementary School
Oak Ridge School	Peebles Elementary School

Taught over 1,370 students about groundwater, water quality, and other water issues relevant to Cape Cod through experiential learning activities.

## Barnstable

### **Fire Safety Puppet Show**

Performed the Fire Safety Puppet Show at the West Barnstable Fire Department's Halloween Safety event for kids.

### **Human Rights Academy**

Facilitated environmental and service learning conversations with Barnstable High School Students.

### **Presentation at Cape Cod Community College**

Delivered an informational presentation about AmeriCorps Cape Cod and service for an environmental technology class.

### **Green Ribbon Puppet Show**

Performed the Green Ribbon Puppet Show at the Barnstable Village Holiday Stroll.

### **Burn Pile Consolidation**

Consolidated debris into piles for future potential burn.

### **Red Lily Pond Coalition**

Performed extensive phragmites removal in herring run and along river banks.

### **Scudder Lane**

Set oysters with Barnstable Shellfish Department.

### **Bridge Street Landing**

Culled and broadcasted 1,400 quahogs with the Barnstable Shellfish Department.

### **County Tree Farm**

Maintained trees at the farm and improved accessibility to trees. Removed natural debris and invasive species.

### **West Harbor**

Served with Barnstable Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in which the group completed shellfish propagation, quahog collection, and basic maintenance.

### **Halls Creek**

Served with Mass Audubon to erect symbolic fencing in an effort to protect threatened coastal water birds.

## **Meetinghouse Farm**

Created and maintained a trail on the farm and performed general farm maintenance for the summer.

## Bourne

### **Sagamore Hill**

Served with the U.S Army Corps of Engineers to remove trees and other vegetation at this historic site.

### **Cape Cod Canal Railroad Bridge**

Removed small scrub oak and autumn olive to maintain endangered heathland habitat.

### **Mashnee Dike**

Ousted scrub oak, autumn olive, honeysuckle, and cedar to maintain the endangered heathland habitat.

### **Bournedale Herring Run**

Served with the U.S. Army Corps to clean up the Bournedale Herring Run.

## Brewster

### **Coast Sweep**

Cleaned debris from eight miles of beach in Brewster as part of a state and country-wide cleanup effort. Twenty four volunteers were recruited for this event.

### **Green Ribbon Puppet Show**

Performed the Green Ribbon Puppet Show at The Family School.

### **Stonybrook Gristmill Herring Run Clearing**

Reduced hazard tree branches and cleared debris from herring run.

### **Dream Day on Cape Cod Service Day**

Moved waterfront equipment to winter location and spread loam to prevent hillside slumping.

### **Stony Brook Herring Run**

Cleared herring run to increase flow and stabilized banks with Brewster Department of Natural Resources and Brewster Alewife Committee.

### **Punkhorn Lands**

Reduced risk of wildfire potential through brush cutting 100 foot fire break on either side of service road, an approximately 10 acre area.

### **Punkhorn Lands**

Utilized recycled shells from restaurants to make cultch bags which created a habitat for juvenile shellfish to grow. Set up artificial oyster reefs.



# YEAR 17 SERVICE PROJECTS CONT.

## **Quivett Marsh Vista**

Removed invasive vegetation (grape, porcelain berry, bittersweet and phragmites) on property owned by Brewster Conservation Trust.

## **Wing Island**

Promoted habitat diversity and improved residential safety from spread of wildfire by brush cutting two acres.

## **Stony Brook Herring Run**

Moved bags of cement for constructing a dam.

## **Nickerson State Park**

Improved ecological health of forest by thinning forest and reducing fire risk with Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR).

## **Brewster Flats**

Brought oysters in off the flats for the winter with Brewster DNR.

## **Chatham**

### **Causeway**

Harvested and broadcasted quahogs with Chatham Shellfish Department.

### **Stage Harbor**

Culled oysters with Chatham Shellfish Department.

### **Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge**

Removed old wooden posts from beach, removed trash, and inspected burn area.

### **Monomoy Island**

Performed controlled burn on 33 acres to reduce excess vegetation and improve the nesting habitat for common terns and Roseate terns, a federally endangered species.

### **Chatham Conservation Trust**

Removed black locusts, tree of heaven, and privet shrubs to restore a natural meadow landscape.

### **Menekesh Corner**

Removed invasive species and restored a natural meadow, as well as burned large piles of debris previously stacked with Chatham Conservation Foundation. Planted several trees.

### **Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge**

Posted seasonal closed area signs to protect beach nesting birds.

### **Oyster Pond Beach**

Hauled oyster cages out of water, emptied cages and bags, and placed oysters into clean bags and fresh cages for the summer with the Chatham Shellfish Department.

## **Dennis**

### **Dennis Wood Lottery Preparation**

Stacked wood into piles for distribution to Dennis residents in need of wood to heat their homes.

### **Boy Scout Weekend Service Project**

Removed non-native plants in Old Fort Field with volunteers from a local Boy Scout troop.

### **Blueberry Patch Trail Maintenance**

Cut back overgrown brush on the trail and removed invasive species.

### **Scargo Herring Run**

Served with Dennis Conservation Trust to clear overhanging vegetation from banks of herring run to improve flow and accessibility for herring.

### **Scargo Vista Clearing**

Removed invasive species to provide continued use for recreational activities.

### **Bound Brook Herring Run**

Removed debris and other objects that were blocking the path of the herring run with the Dennis DNR.

### **Crowe's Pasture**

Served with the Dennis DNR to remove trail debris, including vegetation blocking the various trails on the parcel.

### **Cove Road Property**

Along with the Dennis Conservation Trust, removed invasive species from an upland forest habitat in an attempt to reclaim the land for the native plant species.

### **Pond Street Blueberry Patch**

Served with the Dennis DNR to spread mulch and remove overgrown vegetation in the town-owned blueberry patch.

## **Eastham**

### **Hostel International Eastham**

Removed invasive plants from conservation land surrounding youth hostel.

### **Salt Pond**

Culled, cleaned and broadcasted oysters at Salt Pond with Eastham Department of Natural Resources.

### **Skiff Hill**

Removed invasive species on 0.25 miles of existing trail at Fort Hill.

### **Eastham Elementary School**

Rehabilitated outdoor classroom and trails to pond, and removed invasives and poison ivy to allow children and teachers to use the area for education and play.



# CONT. **YEAR 17 SERVICE PROJECTS**

## Falmouth

### **Beebe Woods**

Led students on interpretive walks in Beebe Woods.

### **Crane Wildlife Management Area**

Performed six acre prescribed burn with MA DCR.

### **Falmouth Service Center (FSC)**

Assisted FSC volunteers and employees with prepping garden beds for winter, installed fencing, performed general maintenance, and removed invasive species from the garden.

### **Sousa Conservation Land**

Performed maintenance to herring run adjacent to Sousa Conservation land. Cut brush with hand tools and power tools, cleared debris, and moved rocks and large obstacles.

### **Quashnet River**

Along with Trout Unlimited, maintained and restored the river by cutting sweet gale and placing Christmas trees along the river banks for the brook trout and herring populations.

### **Bristol Beach**

Planted beach grass at Bristol Beach in Falmouth, with the Falmouth Beach Department, to help mitigate erosion.

### **Trunk River**

Assisted the Oyster Pond Environmental Trust in removing phragmites to allow Oyster Pond to flush and maintain a healthy environment.

### **Peterson Farm**

Served with the Town of Falmouth Conservation Department and the 300 Committee to remove overgrown vegetation from a historic structure on the property.

### **Breivogel Parcel**

Served with the Town of Falmouth Conservation Department and the 300 Committee to remove juvenile phragmites shoots in the newly created vernal pools on the property.

## Harwich

### **Family S.T.E.M. Night**

Taught students through a variety of hands-on science, technology, engineering, and math activities at Harwich Elementary School.

### **Thompson's Field Management**

Removed hazard branches and invasive plant species at Thompson's Field. Mitigated wildfire risk and restored open grassland through cut, pile, and burning.

### **Bank Street Beach**

Relocated access path by removing beach grass from ideal path location and planting grass on existing path with the Harwich Conservation Department.

### **Harwich Herring River**

Cleared the river with Harwich Natural Resources Department to allow herring to migrate by cutting and removing fallen trees and all other brush obstructing fish passage.

### **Coy's Brook Trail and Lee Baldwin Trail**

Lopped trails, removed invasive vegetation, and cleaned up garbage with the Harwich Conservation Trust.

### **Bells Neck Conservation**

Removed invasive plants, replanted native species, pruned and cleaned up trails, and felled hazard trees with Harwich Conservation Department.

### **Family Pantry of Cape Cod**

Prepared pantry production garden for the growing season by cleaning, turning and preparing beds.

## Mashpee

### **Mashpee Shellfish Little River Boatyard**

Served with the Mashpee Shellfish Department to build oyster and quahog cages. Counted, measured, and broadcasted 534,379 quahogs.

### **Mashpee Tribal Headquarters**

Mitigated wildfire risk through a 12 acre prescribed burn.

### **Mashpee Conservation Department**

Maintained, built, and removed rubbish from numerous paths and trails on Town of Mashpee Land.

### **Popponeset Beach**

Served with Mass Audubon to erect symbolic fencing in an effort to protect threatened coastal water birds.

### **Mashpee Neck**

Performed maintenance on oyster cages in the water to prepare them for the summer season.

### **South Cape Beach**

Served with Mass Audubon to erect symbolic fencing in an effort to protect threatened coastal water birds.

## Orleans

### **Nauset Regional Middle School Greenhouse**

Taught basic greenhouse procedures to middle school students.

### **Twining's Pond**

Removed privet and other invasive plants from area near Twining's Pond with Orleans Conservation Trust.

### **Dylan's Way and Fox Ridge Drive**

Removed autumn olive, black locust saplings, porcelain berry, and bittersweet from these properties with Orleans Conservation Trust.





# YEAR 17 SERVICE PROJECTS CONT.

## **White's Lane**

Cut a new path to a memorial stone and maintained surrounding trail.

## **Nauset Regional Middle School**

Refilled sand in memorial garden, weeded gardens, and maintained and improved trail assisted by the Town of Orleans.

## **Cheney Road**

Removed invasive plants and maintained trail with Orleans Conservation Trust. Cut dead trees, trimmed vegetation on trail, and removed brush piles.

## **Mill Pond Valley**

Removed invasive plants and trimmed vegetation on trail with Orleans Conservation Trust.

## **White's Lane Conservation Area**

Performed prescribed two acre burn with Orleans Conservation Trust.

## **Putnam Farm**

Installed seasonal irrigation line by laying line and installing uprights for plots, backfilled trench, and removed invasive species with Town of Orleans.

## **Boland Pond Trail**

Removed hazard trees from trail and enhanced the space to be used as an outdoor learning space.

## **Sarah's Pond**

Removed invasive species at Orleans Conservation Trust's Keller Property near Sarah's Pond to keep invasives from spreading further in a wooded and grassland conservation area.

## **Namequoit Bog**

Served with Orleans Conservation Trust to burn piles of dead plant material to advance ecological succession goals.

## **Orleans Elementary School**

Built raised garden beds, planted native grasses, taught a pollinator lesson to students, and planted a pollinator garden for Orleans Conservation Trust.

## **Eldredge Playground**

Planted trees with Orleans Tree Department to add shade to the playground.

## **Mauch Gift**

Performed invasive removal with Orleans Conservation Trust to maintain the current property.

## **Kent's Point**

Improved eroded walking paths by introducing wood chips with Orleans Tree Department.

## **Great Oak Road**

Removed invasive plant species with Orleans Conservation Trust.

## **Theresa's Way**

Weeded beds built by previous AmeriCorps members with Orleans Tree Department.

## **Provincetown**

### **Winthrop Street Cemetery**

Cleaned and removed overgrown invasive plants and other brush, especially around headstones, downed trees, and branches. Gathered cut material for Provincetown Department of Public Works (DPW) to pick up.

### **Herring Cove Beach**

Walked the beach with the Center for Coastal Studies collecting and sorting 4,147 pieces of trash. Returned in May to shatter our record with over 10,000 pieces of trash collected.

### **Center for Coastal Studies**

Sorted invertebrate samples to contribute to the Center for Coastal Studies' project of mapping invertebrates on the seafloor.

### **B-Street Garden**

Cleared and mulched pathways, painted signs to label community garden beds, and built a compost bin.

## **Sandwich**

### **East Sandwich Beach**

Served with Mass Audubon to erect symbolic fencing in an effort to protect threatened coastal water birds.

### **Mill Creek Boardwalk**

Floated trays on kayaks and canoes to the boardwalk, broadcasted oysters underneath the boardwalk and cleaned oyster trays with the Sandwich DNR.

### **Camp Edwards Cantonment Area**

Served with the Army National Guard to remove invasive honeysuckle and autumn olive. Both the Bourne House and Wellfleet House participated.

### **Spring Hill Beach**

Served with Mass Audubon to erect symbolic fencing in an effort to protect threatened coastal water birds.



# CONT. YEAR 17 SERVICE PROJECTS

### **Town Neck Beach**

Dug over 50 holes for the installation of symbolic fencing in an effort to protect the dunes and threatened coastal water birds.

### **Shawme Pond**

Served with the Sandwich DNR to remove debris in nearby herring runs and trails.

### **YMCA Camps Burgess and Hayward**

Utilized wood splitters to stock fire wood for the upcoming summer, and spread wood chips for the low ropes course.

## Truro

### **Children's Community Garden Art Club Exhibition**

Assisted students at after school program to create sustainable art and helped set up art display.

### **Truro Library, Truro Elementary, Wellfleet Elementary**

Mulched school and public library community gardens with sea hay and eel grass to protect them over the winter.

### **Edgewood Farm and Keezer Trail**

Along with the Truro Conservation Trust, extended a walking trail previously created by AmeriCorps Cape Cod, and rehabilitated another walking trail.

## Wellfleet

### **Oakdale Cemetery**

Maintained and cleaned this historic site.

### **OysterFest**

Assisted with distribution of shell recycling buckets and signage. Encouraged the recycling of used oyster shells at recycling post and helped move used shells to a central location.

### **OysterFest Shuck and Run**

Set up and ran water station with Wellfleet Recreation Department.

### **Wellfleet Conservation Trust Sites**

Removed invasive vegetation, cleaned up and maintained sites, and installed benches at several Wellfleet Conservation Trust sites.

### **13th Annual State of the Harbor Conference**

Assisted with facilitation of conference in Wellfleet.

### **Gull Pond Sluiceway and Indian Neck Beach**

Planted and mulched native species at Gull Pond Sluiceway to improve ecological integrity of site and still allow pedestrian access. Planted native species at Indian Neck Beach.

### **Wellfleet Pond Restoration**

Slowed erosion by placing jute, planting native plants, and closing down old trails.

### **Omaha Road Landing**

Constructed two kayak racks at Omaha Road Landing with Wellfleet Health and Conservation Department to mitigate erosion by discouraging beach-goers from leaving kayaks in dunes and on beach vegetation.

### **Massachusetts Audubon at Wellfleet**

Performed 11 acre prescribed burn.

### **Wellfleet Herring River**

Cleared the river with the Wellfleet Herring Warden to prepare for the spring herring run.

### **Field Point**

Constructed and installed a kayak rack to encourage users to avoid storing kayaks in the dunes and beach grass.

### **Great Pond**

Remediated steps to the pond's edge with the Wellfleet Department of Public Works by sweeping and clearing leaves and sand, filling in eroded steps, removing snow fencing, replacing broken steps and tread, and replacing broken rails and posts.

### **Town of Wellfleet Fire Department**

Painted fire hydrants to comply with national standards of color coding that Wellfleet recently adopted.

## Yarmouth

### **Egg Island**

Served with Mass Audubon to erect symbolic fencing in an effort to protect threatened coastal water birds.

### **Taylor Bray Farm**

Cleared vegetation to improve vista and remove invasive plants.

### **Seagull Beach**

Served with Mass Audubon to erect symbolic fencing in an effort to protect threatened coastal water birds.



# YEAR 17 SERVICE PROJECTS CONT.

## Cape Cod National Seashore

### **Marconi Site**

Cut back, piled, and burned scrub oak stands and burned near the Marconi Site Comfort Station in order to restore habitat for native birds and rabbits.

### **Marconi Beach Site**

Cut, piled, and burned scrub oak stands near the Marconi Beach Fee Booth to restore habitat for native birds and rabbits.

### **Brennan House**

Performed a 1.6 acres prescribed burn to reduce wildfire risk at one of the many Cape Cod National Seashore (CCNS)-owned parcels.

### **Marconi Headquarters**

Performed cut, pile, burn at Headquarters in order to maintain open heathland habitat with the Fire Management Office. Also performed a prescribed burn across from Headquarters to promote growth of rare broom crowberry.

### **Rockwell House**

Removed a hazard tree at one of the many CCNS-owned parcels to maintain a clear route in case of wildfire.

### **Pilgrim Spring**

Thinned, piled and burned the forest to reduce wildfire risk and restore historic and cultural resources, such as the vista to the ocean.

### **Highlands Center**

Reduced fuel loads in the residential area of the Highlands Center through cut, pile, burn and prescribed fire.

### **Cudsworth Fire Road**

Cleared the fire road leading to the Cudsworth House in the National Seashore to gain accessibility for a prescribed burn at a later date.

### **Mitre Site Gun Range**

Performed cut, pile, burn to expand gun range. Cleared 0.35 acres and led a five acre prescribed burn to thin the pink/oak forests for ecological health and fire mitigation with Cape Cod National Seashore.

### **Highland Links Golf Course**

Served with Cape Cod National Seashore in a cut, pile, burn project to promote ecological health of native plants on the golf course. Also performed one acre prescribed burn.

### **Doane Rock**

Reduced fuels around Doane Rock through a prescribed burn of 0.3 acres.

### **Stevens House**

Reduced wildfire risk through pile burns and performed a prescribed fire at one of the many CCNS-owned parcels to create fire breaks in surrounding forests. Performed three acre prescribed burn.

### **Fort Hill**

Restored historic vista through brush cutting black locusts and pitch pines. Preserved rare open habitat on Cape Cod through a prescribed burn.

### **Richardson Field**

Reduced wildfire risk through a prescribed burn by creating a protective barrier around the residence at one of the CCNS-owned residences.

### **Salt Pond Visitor Center**

Cleared one acre surrounding the Salt Pond Visitor Center of CCNS through cut, pile, burn and prescribed burning.

### **Nauset Light**

Reduced fuels around Nauset Light by clearing 0.1 acres of bittersweet.

### **Little Creek Parking Lot**

Cleared black locust trees to beautify this portion of CCNS.

### **Lombard-Paradise Hollow**

Performed prescribed burn on research plots.

### **Province Lands**

Cut, piled, and burned pitch pines at the Provincelands Visitor Center in Provincetown in an effort to restore heathland, mitigate fire risk, and restore scenic vistas.





# THANK YOU!

## PROJECT DONATIONS

- BJ's Wholesale Club
- Box Lunch
- Cape Cod Bagel
- Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority
- Dunkin Donuts
- Hole in One Donuts
- Honey Dew Donuts
- Jo Mama's
- Market Basket
- Nauset Farms
- Nirvana
- Sam's Deli
- Shaw's-Hyannis
- Shaw's-Orleans
- Shaw's-South Yarmouth
- Star Market-Hyannis
- Star Market-Orleans
- Starbucks
- Stop and Shop-Harwich
- Stop and Shop-Mashpee
- Stop and Shop-Falmouth
- Stop and Shop-Hyannis
- Stop and Shop-Orleans
- Stop and Shop-Sandwich
- Stop and Shop-South Dennis
- Stop and Shop-South Yarmouth
- Trader Joe's
- Wellfleet General Store

## MEMBER TRAINERS

- Mark Adams
- Deirdre Arvidson
- Carly Brady
- Phil Burt
- Matt Cannon
- Nancy Church
- Nina Coleman
- Dave Crary
- Joe Daigle
- Larry Dapsis
- Mark Dobbins
- Brian Everett
- Julie Ferguson
- Kathy Fidler
- Diana Gaumont
- Kasi Gilbert
- CT Harry
- George Heufelder
- Kelly Hewitt
- Jane Hoppe
- Amanda Howe
- Rachel Hutchinson
- Matt Keilty
- Diana Lamb
- Crystal LaPine
- Liz Lewis
- Margot Madden
- Mike Maguire
- Tom Marcotti
- Heather McElroy
- Bobbi Moritz
- Molly Mullaney
- Ric Porter
- George Price
- Lewis Shelley
- Dan Silverman
- Matt Spears
- Gerry Tierney
- Juliet Tierney
- Amy Usowski
- Mike Walker
- Fran Weidman-Dahl
- Maura Weir



# DEPARTING STAFF



**BRANDY MEADOR**  
*FIRECORPS PROGRAM SUPERVISOR*

From 2015-2016, Brandy Meador served as AmeriCorps Cape Cod FireCorps supervisor. Hailing from Virginia, Brandy completed a stint in National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) first as an AmeriCorps Member and then as a Team Leader. In the coming months, Brandy will stay on Cape to take a position with Massachusetts Audubon Society Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary.



**ZACHARY O'HALLORAN**  
*BOURNE PROGRAM SUPERVISOR*

Zach served as an AmeriCorps Cape Cod member from 2014-2015 where his individual placement was with the Barnstable County Regional Emergency Planning Committee. He then joined the ACC staff as the Bourne Program Supervisor for 2015-2016. Zach plans to pursue his Juris Doctor at North Carolina Central University School of Law in the fall of 2016.



**JENNIFER ZAKRZEWSKI**  
*WELLFLEET PROGRAM SUPERVISOR*

Jen served as an AmeriCorps Cape Cod member in the Bourne House from 2013-2014. She then spent a year as a Field Teacher/Naturalist at the University of Rhode Island's W. Alton Jones campus. She returned to ACC for Year 17 as the Wellfleet Program Supervisor. She is currently exploring her options for next year, but will likely stay in the environmental field.

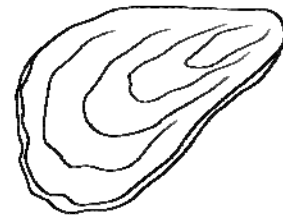
# DEPARTING STAFF CONT.



## BRITTANY QUAGLIERI

*PROGRAM SPECIALIST/COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND DEVELOPMENT*

Brittany began as a staff member with AmeriCorps Cape Cod during Year 15 as the Wellfleet House Supervisor, and worked as the Community Outreach and Development Program Specialist during Years 16 and 17. From 2008-2010, She served as an AmeriCorps member in the Watershed Stewards Program in California. She served as a team leader in 2009 and was a staff member in 2010. She is originally from Hyannis, MA and attended Salem State University.



## CHRISTIN MARSHALL

*PROGRAM COORDINATOR*



From 2007-2008, Christin served as an AmeriCorps Cape Cod member in the Wellfleet House. The following year, she moved to the Upper Cape and became the Bourne House Supervisor. After a year off-Cape as a snow-plow driver, census enumerator, maple syrup producer, and trivia host, Christin returned to ACC to serve as Program Specialist from 2011-2013. She moved into her current Program Coordinator role in late 2013. With eight years of environmental service and program administration under her belt, Christin is eager to explore new career opportunities as well as utilize a newly-minted Masters in Business Administration. She will be marrying former Wellfleet housemate, David Quinn, in September 2016.