

The Great Marsh Pepperweed Eradication Project

The Great Marsh Perennial Pepperweed Eradication Project is a collaboration between Parker River National Wildlife Refuge, Mass Audubon, and a growing list of other local partners. The project was initiated in 2006 to control and eradicate perennial pepperweed on and near the Parker River Refuge. With the help of numerous volunteers, thousands of pounds of pepperweed have been pulled from the Refuge and surrounding areas, and more than 65 sites have been restored.



In 2006, pepperweed control was expanded to the entire Great Marsh ecosystem. Recent partners to the project include Massachusetts Audubon, Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, Gulf of Maine Institute, Plum Island Kayak, Eight Towns and the Bay, The Trustees of Reservations, Parker River Clean Water Association, Ipswich River Watershed Association, local schools, and Boy and Girl Scouts of America. We are actively seeking new partners and volunteers.

Perennial pepperweed is a relatively new invasive plant to the Northeastern U.S. and is currently found only in Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire, and Long Island. By mobilizing local residents and groups, we are aiming to eradicate this new invasive plant from our watershed. Join your neighbors in the fight against invasive plants. Visit the links below and volunteer today!

Contact Us

For more information, to volunteer, or to report a pepperweed sighting, please contact:

Nancy Pau, wildlife biologist
Parker River National Wildlife Refuge
6 Plum Island Turnpike
Newburyport, MA 01950
Email: nancy_pau@fws.gov
Phone: 978-465-5753 x211
Fax: 978-465-2807

