



Friends of Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge

Summer 2025 Newsletter

Hello Refuge Friends!

As another summer comes to a close at the Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge, the landscape is still alive with color, sound and activity. From the arrival and departure of migratory birds to the blooming of native wildflowers throughout the season, we are reminded of why our shared commitment to conservation matters so deeply. It's also a time when our community comes together—through stewardship, exploration, and celebration—to honor the refuge's natural beauty and the partnerships that sustain it.

In this edition, you'll find updates on summer events, volunteer opportunities, and highlights from our ongoing conservation efforts. With the 30th anniversary of the refuge on the horizon, there's never been a more exciting time to get involved. We invite you to join us in making this year one of connection, discovery and lasting impact for the wildlife and habitats we all cherish.

Please scroll down to read more.

Thank you for your continued support of our vibrant organization!

Glenn Davis and MaryKay Fox
Co-Presidents
Friends of Mashpee NWR

P.S.: If you haven't already renewed your membership, and/or want to get more involved in the Friends organization, see the mail-in form on the last page (or [click here](#) to donate online). More information is always available on our [website](#) and [Facebook](#) page, with up-to-date info on upcoming events and other Refuge news. Thank you again for your support!

Planting Seeds: My Americorps Cape Cod Journey

by Kaycee Doherty, 2024-25 AmeriCorps Member

At the start of this year, I chose to work with the Friends of Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge as one of my independent placements (IP) for my AmeriCorps year. I had no idea what to expect. My IP partner, Lucinda Keith, had no shortage on ideas for what I could do, and from day one, we hit the ground running, picking up signs from the recent Walk For The Wild as she introduced me to the mission of the Friends, the power of their partnerships, and the scope of their work across the

Cape.

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Wampanoag 2025 Preserving Our Homelands Camp



On Wednesday, July 23rd, the Friends of Mashpee NWR supported the Mashpee Wampanoag "Preserving Our Homelands" (POH) Youth Camp for our 10th consecutive year! This year's program included working with over 20 Tribal youth, plus counselors to plant over 300 medicinal and pollinator-friendly plants at the Wampanoag Maushop Farm.

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Creature Feature: Sparrows Through the Seasons On the Cape

by Kaycee Doherty, 2024-25 AmeriCorps Member



Sparrows are a common but often frustrating bird to identify for new birders. These little brown birds often look very similar and take a lot of practice and attention to detail to tell apart. Despite this, I often find sparrows to be some of my most favorite birds to identify. Their challenging nature makes finally understanding them that much more rewarding. They're also everywhere, which means plenty of opportunities to practice.

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From Pitch Pines to Craft Beer: Find Your Wild Celebrates Nature



Under clear late-summer skies, the Friends of Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge welcomed dozens of participants to Find Your Wild 2025, a spirited 5K walk through one of Cape Cod's most treasured landscapes. The event, part of the refuge's 30th anniversary celebration, brought together nature lovers, families, and community partners for a day of outdoor adventure and conservation awareness.

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Cleanup and Planting at Jehu Trailhead



When you want a transformation, who do you call? AmeriCorps Cape Cod of course! The Friends of Mashpee NWR along with Mashpee Conservation had a big project of removing endless mugwort and grasses at the Jehu Conservation Area Trailhead. Our AmeriCorps Member Kaycee led the project. Not only did they remove all of that nightmare causing mugwort, but bushes were trimmed and over 70 native pollinator plants were planted.

[Read More...](#)

Please check our [website](#) or [Facebook](#) page for other upcoming events, activities and volunteer opportunities. Also, don't miss the Town of Mashpee Interpretive Nature Tours on Saturday mornings (see our [events calendar](#) for details)!

2025 Friends of Mashpee NWR Board of Directors:

Glenn Davis, Co-President, Co-Treasurer

MaryKay Fox, Co-President, Co-Treasurer

Lucinda Keith, Clerk

Neil Barkin

Katelyn Cadoret

F Thomas Fudala, Historian

Tania Lewandowski

Membership Form

YES! I want to support the **Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge** - enclosed are my dues as checked below.

Name: _____

Phone: (H) _____ (C) _____

Street: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ ZIP Code: _____

Email: _____

Enclose payment for the membership - please make checks payable to: **FMNWR**

Mail to: FMNWR, P.O. Box 1283, Mashpee, MA 02649

Thank you!

☐ Junior (18 and under) \$10

☐ Individual \$25

☐ Family \$50

☐ Conservation Friend \$100

☐ Wildlife Sponsor \$200

☐ Refuge Sponsor \$500+

☐ Lifetime Gift \$1000

☐ Corporate Gift \$ _____

☐ Other \$ _____

Donate Online

Volunteer Form

I would be interested in the following opportunities listed below:

☐ Stewardship Projects

☐ Newsletter Editor

☐ Native Pollinator Gardens

☐ Education Talks/Walks, Events at Schools

☐ Volunteer & Membership Coordinator

The Friends meet monthly on the first Tuesday at 5pm on Zoom. Please join us and get involved with Refuge projects, Friends group, pollinators, and community events! If interested, email us at

info@friendsofmashpeenationalwildliferefuge.org for a Zoom invite.



Friends of the Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge
info@friendsofmashpeenationalwildliferefuge.org
www.friendsofmashpeenationalwildliferefuge.org

FMNWR
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