Friends of
Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge

Summer/Fall 2026 Newsletter

Hello Refuge Friends!

What a summer it's been! And the Fall is shaping up to be a continuation of the non-stop action.

We recently honored Tom Eagle, the 2026 recipient of the David Ross Palmer Environmental Hero Award.

On Halloween, we planted native plants with our Refuge Partner, the Falmouth Rod & Gun Club. Perfect temperature, great pollinator crew, and hundreds of well established native plants went into the ground up in their Apple field. Should look fantastic next year! Thanks to KC Mitkevicius for organizing the event and plantings.

The osprey nest at the Waquoit Bay Reserve fledged one offspring ("Oscar") this year. As the ospreys left for their seasonal migration, owls and other creatures have taken up the slack. Don't miss their activity live at fmnwr.org/osprey and read about some of the highlights below.

We were sad to say goodbye to our 2025/26 AmeriCorps Cape Cod Member, Alayna Krempa, who had an amazing year with us. We are incredible grateful for her contributions!

One of Alayna's last efforts was her help with the **2026 Wampanoag "Preserving our Homelands" Tribal youth camp**. As always, it was a day to remember!

Thank you for your continued support of the Friends of Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge!

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 below (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!

Please scroll down to read more.

Halloween Planting at the Falmouth Rod & Gun Club's Apple Field



On October 31st, we planted native plants with our Refuge Partner, the Falmouth Rod & Gun Club. Perfect temperature, great pollinator crew, and hundreds of well established native plants went into the ground up in their Apple field. Should look fantastic next year! Plants donated by the Friends included lance leaf coreopsis, anise hyssop, golden alexanders and ironweed.

Thanks to KC Mitkevicius for organizing the event and plantings.

2026 David Palmer Environmental Hero Award Goes to Tom Eagle



On October 15, at a dinner at the Falmouth Rod & Gun Club, the Friends of Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge presented the 2026 David Ross Palmer Environmental Hero Award to Tom Eagle, who recently retired after spending nearly 20 years as Deputy Project Leader of the Eastern Massachusetts NWR Complex. The Palmer Award is named for the late founder and first president of the Friends, who was a champion of the environment. The Friends initiated this award in 2013 to honor community leaders who demonstrate outstanding dedication and excellent stewardship and conservation work within the Mashpee NWR...

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2026 Preserving Our Homelands (POH) Camp



On Tuesday July 21st, the Friends of MNWR supported the Mashpee Wampanoag “Preserving Our Homelands” (POH) Youth Camp for our 11th consecutive year! This year, we planned and purchased plants, and worked with Tribal youth, counselors and staff to plant a variety of cultural, medicinal and pollinator-friendly plants at the Wampanoag Maushop Farm...

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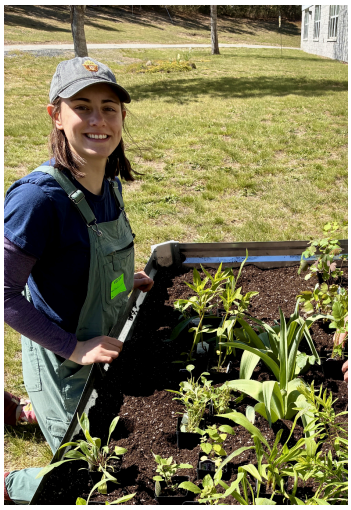
Osprey Nest at Waquoit Bay Reserve: Creatures in the Off-Season



Rachel, Carson, and young Oscar are gone for the season, but other creatures can be seen on the nest while they winter down South. Most of the activity is at night. Great Horned Owls bring their prey to the nest and an occasional raccoon or squirrel also provide entertainment...

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AmeriCorps Member Alayna Krempa – Friends Of Mashpee NWR Reflection



As my AmeriCorps Cape Cod year of service comes to an end, I am grateful for all of the experiences that I have gained through my individual placement with the Friends of the Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge...

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)!

2026 Friends of Mashpee NWR Board of Directors:

Glenn Davis, Co-President, Co-Treasurer
MaryKay Fox, Co-President, Co-Treasurer
Neil Barkin
Katelyn Cadoret
F Thomas Fudala, Historian
Tania Lewandowksi

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
[ ] Interest in Serving on Board of Directors

The Friends meet virtually on the first Tuesday of each month at 5pm on Google Meet. Please join us and get involved with Refuge projects, Friends group, pollinators and community events! If interested, email us at info@fmnwr.org *for an invite.*

Friends of the Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge
info@fmnwr.org
www.fmnwr.org
FMNWR
P.O. Box 1283 Mashpee, MA 02649

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