

Southeast Hub Meeting
Tuesday, June 17, 2014
Exeter, NH

Website Update

- Customizable e-news will be available in 3-6 months, which will be important as TSN:NE grows.
- Suzanne Peterson mentions a potential glitch in EDD maps – invasives reporting does not appear to be anonymous (even if it is)

Garlic Mustard Challenge Update

- One more garlic mustard pull is scheduled for Wednesday, June 25th from 12-1pm in Newmarket at Lubberland Creek. This will be the last pull as plants are close to going to seed. Also will be pulling mostly 1st year plants.
- Outcome of the challenge is finding that there is more garlic mustard in NH than previously thought – shows the importance of mapping populations so we can inform next year's efforts
- Would really like more people to start mapping – will try to incorporate into future education/workshop efforts
- Suzanne mentioned being safer when working along roads (perhaps TSN:NE should have a supply of road signs/traffic cones)
- ED maps – can be entered from computer or phone (don't need a smart phone to map invasive populations) – you can point to a map (also don't need the GPS coordinates)
- Malin mentioned that The Exchange on NHPR will have a show about invasives tomorrow (June 18th – recording available online)
- Emma told story about connecting with a neighbor – make bookmark more available to folks?
- Anne Kotlus mentioned that the Dover Open Space committee has a walk planned for August at the Bellamy Preserve and that would be a good opportunity to hand out bookmarks, etc.
- Ellen – is this an important topic? Should there be a more concerted effort? Peterborough Conservation Commission example training on mapping?

Intern Update

- There are two interns working with the Stewardship Network this summer. The first is also working with the Coastal Research Volunteers group and is researching Citizen Science opportunities in NH. The second was hired as a joint intern between several organizations (who applies to the Stewardship Network to have an intern for a short project). She will be working with Southeast Land Trust, SeaGrant (bird research on Isles of Shoals), UNH Office of Woodlands and Natural Areas, NRCS, and the Newcastle Conservation Commission.
- Malin reports that she has learned a lot through this process and is excited for an even stronger intern program next year. She will likely start looking for interns sooner, so keep eye out for RFP for projects.
- The interns will also be posting stories on the website for those interested in finding out more about how their summer goes.

Easement Monitoring

- Is it possible to collaborate on training volunteers to monitor easements? Is this something that is needed?
- We asked those present to discuss how they currently monitor easements in their towns (Dover, Lee) or their organizations (Southeast Land Trust, NRCS)

- In Dover experienced monitors train new members in monitoring (one-on-one). They use a standard form, but it needs updating. They also think it would be nice to have additional training. They would be willing to have anyone in own volunteer – doesn't have to be committee members (open space or conservation).
- In Lee experienced members train those interested in monitoring – meet regularly to monitor easements as a group and all are welcome, though rarely do others come.
- All seemed to agree that it would make sense to collaborate on trainings and also to have a standard monitoring form that follows Land Trust Alliance Standards
- The hub will work towards planning and scheduling TWO easement monitor training workshops in addition to a predictable and regular series of additional workshops/trainings that would provide other relevant skills.
- Monitoring is best done in early spring and late fall, and the easement monitoring trainings should be held in early spring – with one being located in the western part of the Hub and the other in the eastern part of the hub.

Wrap up

- Reminder that Emma and Ellen are hosting a “How to Lead an Invasive Plant Workday” workshop in October
- Hub Hangout is July 14th 5-6pm