

SWIM Adopt a Beach Reports: August through October

Bass Point:

No report

Bathing Beach: behind Marine Science Center

August 10: Deb Vanderslice and Mary Jane Cusack..

It was a hot, sunny day with temperatures in the upper 80s. Very little wind. Vegetation was looking very good; sumac was bountiful along the walk-way, and the trees were gloriously green (i.e. leaves not dried out) and healthy-looking. A mother and her baby geese were swimming close to shore, and sand-pipers were looking for food along the sidewalk.

Lots of signs of sea-life were present. There was a great abundance of blue mussels along the upper beach (more than I had seen before). There were several orange crab shells scattered about. A few lobster shells dotted the seascape. Sea-weed and plankton were healthy- looking along the shore-line. No invasive species were seen.

In terms of trash, surprisingly there was not as much of the large stuff (lobster trap parts, plastic containers) as usual. Mostly smaller stuff. And the grass-line along the concrete walk-way had much less trash than usual.

Items Found:

Five miniature empty liquor bottles

Seven plastic bottles

Two crushed beer cans, and four can bottoms

One broken glass bottle of "Barefoot" wine

Nine small sections of lobster trap grates

Four lobster trap strappings

Five empty plastic bags

Two deflated balloons

Nine plastic ties

Three rope sections

One sneaker

Eight straws

Nine candy wrappers

Three bungee cords

Canoe Beach:

August 8: Mark Patek and Tess Bauta

5 plastic bags, 10 pieces of balloons, 3 plastic and one glass bottle, 2 cans, 8 lids, 1 underwear, 20 food wrappers, 15 straws, **2 lobster traps (too heavy to move and are still at edge of beach as of October 27)**, 9 trap parts, 10 strapping bands, 10 filament fishing line, 15 pieces rope, 20 cigarettes etc., 8 cigarette etc. wrappers, 1 piece wood. Beautiful day with lots of green mossy seaweed and eel grass.

October 3: Marine Science Center Open House day complete with a nice group ready to clean up. However winds were so high (40 mph) that we directed them to Bathing Beach which they did a fabulous job cleaning up. Have a look at this video of them working! (don't look at me!).

<https://www.youtube.com/user/MassEEA> Canoe Beach needs a big cleanup.

Crystal Beach (at Marjoram Park)

October 20: Nancy Wilson and Susan Snow

1 plastic bag, 2 plastic bottles, 3 food wrappers, 1 lobster trap part, 1 bleach bottle, 4 strapping bands, lots of pieces rope, 1 large heavy piece wood, 1 bag wrapped around stair rail.

End of season survey: water is clean, lots of seaweed, clam and lobster shells, eel grass beds, "1 gull called "Peg" in her usual spot", seawall along Marjoram Park needs repairs, invasive Asian Shore Crabs. Our little beach is quite clean.

Forty Steps:

August 8: John Benson and Tom Costin

4 plastic bags, 2 balloons, 17 plastic bottles, 1 gallon jug, 4 glass bottles, 7 cans, 10 lids, 2 sandals, 1 insole, 4 pieces Styrofoam, 5 picnicware, 3 food wrappers, 1 6 pack holder, 3 straws, 1 Ace bandage, 17 candy wrappers, 3 rubber bands, 5 lobster trap pieces, 3 filament fishing line, small pile rope pieces, 11 pieces wood, 6 ears of corn, 2 socks, plastic pieces, 67 cigarettes, 1 cig wrapper,

12 pieces wood, 1 tampon applicator, one 4x4 plywood sign saying "Pirates Beware", 3 fireworks. Beach and hillside surprisingly clean. Just one 30 gallon trash bag 60% full.

End of season survey: water in excellent condition, few algae, crabs, a few pieces of blue mussels, majority of shells were slipper shells. Few birds. Usual array of invasive plants plus a new one: **Purple Loosestrife** at base of hill below Cliff Street. Multiflora has been eliminated from top of hill, phragmites is spreading. Newly arrived are invasive Mugwort, Evening Primrose and native Catbriar. "**Cigarette smoking** seems to be on the increase and the sidewalk seems to be an important destination for this activity. This is becoming a real problem." "Most of the concentrated litter is on the gravel slope just below the deck at the top of the steps. Maybe if the trash receptacle is relocated to the opposite front corner of the deck, people would be more likely to put trash in it rather than on the ground. Walking a few paces to the left to deposit trash is apparently too inconvenient..."

October 11: Tom Costin (collector) and John Benson (recorder)

6 plastic bags, 2 balloons, 30 plastic bottles, 6 glass bottles, **77 beverage cans**, 10 lids, 2 flat plastic matting, 15 food servers, 7 food wrappers, 8 straws, 5 golf balls, 24+ lobster trap pieces, 7 bait bags, 1 detergent bottle, 1 lead fishing weight, 1 fish hook, 1 cruise ship cup.

End of season survey: large accumulation of seaweed. Invasive plants: swallowwort, phragmites, purple loosestrife, oriental bittersweet, Norway maples, Japanese knotweed. Many dry leaves due to lack of moisture rather than end of season.

October 7: Sue Jolian.

Found a dead baby seal and had a difficult time getting the DPW to remove it but finally succeeded.

Pond Beach: behind Oceanview building

August 8: ML Cort, Alex Lehner, May Cort, Alice Cort, Katy Dolhun.

14 plastic bags, 3 balloons, 17 plastic bottles, 2 glass bottles, 15 cans, 34 lids, 6 garments, 82 food wrappers, 26 straws, 6 toys, **1 lobster trap stuck in the sand – maybe a couple of men could dig it out, any volunteers?**, 9 trap parts, 6 bait bags, 20 strapping bands, 20 pieces styrofoam, 2 fishing lures, 6 filament line, 37 pieces rope, 2 lighters, 12 cigarillo tips, 3 cig wrappers, 2 building materials, 3 pieces wood, 2 tampon applicators, 1 eye dropper, 1 deodorant, 1 make, 1 pencil, miscellaneous plastic pies, **3 dead birds – what types?**

September 20: ML Cort

1 paper bag, 4 plastic bags, 3 balloons, 2 plastic bottles, 6 cans, 7 lids, 3 garments, 16 food wrappers, 2 shotgun shells, 5 straws, 3 toys, 1 detergent bottle, 6 strapping bands, 1 fishing lure, 2 filament fishing line, 2 plastic tarps, 4 pieces rope, 2 cigarettes, 1 lighter, 1 cigar, 1 cig wrapper, 8 large clear plastic McDonalds beverage cups scattered over the beach.

October 12: ML Cort and Alex Lehner

15 plastic bottles, 12 glass bottle, 30 cans, 25 lids, 2 garments, 18 food utensils, 16 food wrappers, 2 shotgun shells, 14 stirrers, 6 toys, 6 golf balls, 1 lobster trap, 5 trap pieces, 1 detergent bottle, 13 strapping bands, 20 pieces rope, **222 cigarettes all in one spot w/ a couple of cigars**, 1 lighter, 7 cigars, 4 wrappers, 1 appliance, 5 pieces wood, 1 medicine container, 1 gas burner lighter, Tiki torch fuel container, lots of pieces Styrofoam.

End of season survey:

Water clean, beach dirty. Water smells fishy, various seaweeds, fish bones on beach, crabs, lobster claws, blue mussels, clams, empty shells, cormorants, gulls, **beach is heavily used**, no trash receptacles at or near the beach. "**Banquet hall guests littering.**" "**The banquet hall should put a trash receptacle at the edge of their parking lot.**"

Short Beach:

August 15&16: Nancy Nicosia

2 paper bags, 2 plastic bags, 2 balloons, 6 glass bottles, 1 can, 1 shoe, 1 Bud carton, 3 food containers, 8 food wrappers, 3 toys, 1 fishing lure, 2 strapping bands, 1 filament fishing line, 2 pieces rope, 5 cigarettes, 3 cig wrappers, 1 dental floss holder.

September 4: Bill Ludke

6 plastic bags, 13 plastic bottles, 1 glass bottle, 4 cans, 17 lids, 8 garments, 21 food utensils, 19 food wrappers, 1 shotgun shell, 31 straws, 5 toys, 2 lobster trap parts, 1 bait bag, 11 pieces rope, 2 cigarettes, 1 cigar, 4 pieces wood, MANY slush cups and straws.

October 27: Bill Ludke

6 plastic bags, 3 balloons, 42 plastic bottles, 3 cans, 121 lids, 6 garments, 27 food containers, 10 food wrappers, 1 6 pack holder, 8 shotgun shells, 72 straws, 8 toys, 6 lobster trap parts, 15 bait bags, 2 oil/lube bottles, 10 strapping bands, 1 fishing lure, 29 pieces rope, 3 lighters, 1 NH sewer disk, 1 piece wood, 2 tampon applicators. "A lot of debris!"

Tudor Beach:

August 16: Nancy Cantelmo

35 plastic bags (submerged and sand filled), 7 plastic bottles, 15 lids, 1 sock, 1 sunglasses, 15 food wrappers, 6 plastic toys, 20 strapping bands, 32 chunks of Styrofoam, 11 pieces rope, 20 cigarettes, 2 cigars, 8 cig wrappers, 1 gardening trowel in perfect condition, 19" long section of vertebral column, probably of a fish.

September 1: Nancy Cantelmo and Brayden McCarthy

2 paper bags, 16 plastic bags, 1 broken glass bottle, 3 cans, 12 lids, 1 shirt, 1 mens brief, 15 food wrappers, 17 straws, 2 pieces fiberglass 15x5, 30 small pieces plastic, 40 pieces Styrofoam, 10 strapping bands, 42 pieces rope, 22 cigarettes, 1 diaper, 5 individual fish vertebrae.

Johnson Beach (at end of Wendell Rd) No reports.