

SWIM Adopt a Beach Reports September 2013

These September reports complete our summer Adopt a Beach season and include a special form which is completed at the beginning and end of the season. Beachkeepers work hard to fill out the final forms – thank you! October – March our Beachkeepers examine their beaches whenever they can and use the Items Collected form to report their findings. They also alert us to anything unusual, including changes during storms.

Bathing Beach: Bob & Debby Vanderslice

Beach seems more "rugged" with many more rocks pushed up towards the seawall. This is a very beautiful beach with "lots of evidence of marine life". There is a trash problem due to the work going on at the Marine Science Center. Hopefully there will be a complete cleanup above the seawall when they finish up. A trash barrel would be helpful, but the MSC would have to take responsibility for emptying it. It would be good if the broken sidewalk atop the seawall could be repaired. Our beachkeepers have volunteered contact those responsible (notified them last spring so it will be interesting to learn what is happening. Trash found: 5 plastic bags, 2 balloons, 12 drink containers, 1 sneaker, 8 food related items, 2 partial toys, 1 lobster float, 9 lobster trap parts, 1 bait bag, 3 strapping bands, 1 fish net, 3 fish lures/lightsticks, several pieces of wood, 1 plastic tarp/sheet, 14 ropes, 20 cigarettes.

Canoe Beach: Mark Patek, ML Cort, Katy Dolhun, Tess & Ever Bauta

Edge of Town side of beach is being cleaned up. (New curb has since been installed.) Beach is clean today. Erosion on the MSC side is continuing with waves undercutting the sod. We suggest a dedicated entry point for MSC people rather than hundreds of people stepping up and down on the fragile sod edge. A seawall might be considered (I have heard of a plan to plant dune grass). Items collected: 3 plastic bags, 4 balloons, 5 beverage containers, 30 caps/lids, 1 tshirt, 50 food related items, 1 flag, 40 lobster trap pieces, 8 bands, 10 fishing line, 20 ropes, 7 cigarettes, 4 NH sewer disks, 5 pieces wood, 1 tampon applicator, 1 mouth guard, 10 pieces Styrofoam. **Recent campfire remains with broken Hennessy bottle and glass shards spread around.**

Crystal Beach (at Marjoram Park): Nancy Wilson, Sue Snow Sept 14

The beach is looking very good. Such a nice little oasis for Nahanters. I believe there are still about 6 tires just under the surface of the sand. Maybe we can get them out this winter if they are exposed by storms. Items collected: 1 plastic bag, 1 can, 7 caps/lids, 14 food related items, 8 lobster bands, 9 ropes, 11 cigarettes. Note: "Two skunks ran along the rocks back and forth until they finally climbed the wall and ran into the park. Also a garden snake slithered up the stairs – almost ran over my hand."

Forty Steps: John Benson, Kristy Lee Sept 14

This beach has not changed over the past 12-15 years "except that invasive plants have become well established and increasing damage due to '100 year' storms" Actions needed: "Long-term observation to see if we are encountering significant change, or if there is the possibility of real, successful remediation." Observed: flock of about 60 Common Eiders or Black Ducks, not sure which. "...a large eroded patch of erosion in center of hill." "Native Sumac making a strong come-back. Worth observing over time to watch progress of the 'native vs. invasive' competition as the climate and weather conditions evolve. "Jerusalem Artichoke, once a prominent feature of the flora of this area in the fall, are nowhere

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to be seen. Note: compare expanding stand of JA on Furbush Road side of Nahant Thicket." Found: 1 metal pipe, 1 shoe sole, 1 pen, 17 paper, 1 tshirt "Shall We Dance", 74 pieces of plastic, 4 plastic bags, 3 balloons, 20 plastic bottles, 18 glass bottles, 20 cans, many caps/lids, 82 food related items, over 100 pieces of rope, 21 pieces Styrofoam, 5 cloths, 16 green plastic matting, 30 fishing line, 8 bands, 23 cigarettes, 3 balloons, 1 tampon applicator, 1 emergency flasher, 1 garment, 1 golf ball, 1 bungee cord.

Pond Beach: no report

Short Beach North End & Middle at Lifesaving Station: no reports

Short Beach South: no report

Tudor Beach: Trish Aldrich and Susan Thomas

Seawall needs repair. Too many cigarette butts on the beach. Found: 1 fish skeleton, 1 blue lobster carapace, 65 bits of plastic, 1 plastic bag, 2 balloons, 11 drink containers, 7 caps/lids, 7 clothing, 26 food related items, 11 toys, 1 bait bag, 65 lobster bands, 2 fishing lures/nightsticks, 5 fishing line, 10 ropes, 1 broken buoy, 29 smoking related items, 4 NH sewer disks, 1 tampon applicator, 1 toothpaste tube, 1 5 gallon bucket.

Johnson Beach (at end of Wendell Rd) no report