

**ARCHIVE: 2016 September 11 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Nahant Bioblitz sponsored by the Northeastern University Marine Science Center and Ocean Genome Legacy**, with over 100 citizen scientists learning about local marine biodiversity and ecosystems.

ARCHIVE: 2016 The COASTWEEP cleanup of Canoe Beach included 13 people with 25 pounds of detritus collected over the 0.25 mile long beach!

**ARCHIVE: 2015 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Nahant Bioblitz sponsored by the Northeastern University Marine Science Center and Ocean Genome Legacy**,

**ARCHIVE: 2013**

**By Kait Taylor / The Daily Item | Tuesday, July 23, 2013**

**SWIM group educates Nahant youth on recycling**

**NAHANT** — There's nothing like trying to scare a kid with the image of a choking turtle to get them to recycle.

Holding a popped latex balloon and its accompanying ribbon, Safer Waters in Massachusetts President Vi Patek told an audience of 30 children in the Nahant Recreation Department Park League that the leftover party favor was "the most dangerous thing on the beach" for animals and advised them against letting the balloons go.

"Turtles think they are jellyfish and they eat them," explained Patek. "And then it stays in their belly and they die."

For their second year presenting a program on cleaner beaches for Nahant Recreation, Patek and other SWIM volunteers put on a skit to show the kids how they can do their part to have a cleaner, safer ocean for both children and animals.

Elementary science teacher Adam Walker and SWIM volunteer ML Cort become "Bobbie the Beachcomber" and "Connie the Cormorant" to show how "the power of recycling" can save birds, fish and other marine animals from digesting, choking on or getting tangled in the trash that can end up on a beach. Walker donned a vest of recycling knowledge to learn the basics of recycling to save "Connie's" friends.



### **ARCHIVE: 2012**

Since 1984 SWIM has been an informal group of people dedicated to the health of the waters and beaches of Nahant under the inspiration and care of Polly Bradley. She retired from her leadership in 2010 and since then has gradually passed the leadership over to Vi Patek. We decided that it would be best if SWIM were given structure to provide durability and continuity into the future. After much work by Polly and Vi, we now have a set of By-Laws for SWIM. We also believe that SWIM should seek 501(c)(3) status.

### **ARCHIVE: 2012**

#### **We have a SWIMTEAM!**

On March 31, eighteen people attended our first Annual Meeting and voted in our new by-laws and new Directors. Our Directors are Vi Patek (President), Tess Bauta (Vice President), Salvatore Genovese (Treasurer), Kristy Lee (Secretary), Patty Flint (liaison with NE University), Maryliz Cort, Carl Jenkins. Our Advisors are Bill Crawford, John Benson, Polly Bradley and Michael Manning. Now we can move forward in an orderly way to further SWIM's goals of focusing on water quality through education, publicity and community-building. We will be calling on you for input on issues as we swim into the future.

Thanks Yous: To Michael Rauworth for critiquing our by-laws, Robert Wilson for updating our website, and Susan Thomas for volunteering to head a committee on media (she is already a Beachkeeper).

### **2012 April 15**

Our first Adopt a Beach of 2012 event is this Sunday, April 15 at 2 p.m. (low tide is 1:42 p.m.). If you are not yet a Beachkeeper, please let me know and you are welcome to join a Beachteam. We now have 9 beaches in the Adopt a Beach program on Nahant!! Two are new this year: Crystal Beach (next to Marjoram Park) whose new Beachkeepers are Nancy Wilson & Susan Snow; Bathing Beach (directly behind the Marine Science Center) whose new Beachkeepers are Debby & Bob Vanderslice. A total of ten people volunteered to be the lead Beachkeepers of these two beaches! You are all welcome to join these Beachkeepers and any others at any of our beaches. Bring the children! Just let me know – see contact information at bottom of this page.

Our 9 Beaches are: Bathing Beach, Black Rock Beach (aka Doggie), Canoe Beach, Crystal Beach, Forty Steps Beach, Johnson Beach, Pond Beach, Short Beach and Tudor Beach.

We have two more new Beachkeepers, Heather Goodwin & Kerry Alice Collins (including their Girl Scout Troop members!), who will volunteer at Short Beach. Of our 6 new Beachkeepers, 4 are signed up for a training session given by Salem Sound Coastwatch this Saturday, April 14, 9:30 - 11:30am Beverly Cooperative Bank, Community Room, 87 Lafayette St (next to Wendy's), Salem, MA 01970. If you would like to go to this training event, contact [info@salemsound.org](mailto:info@salemsound.org) or call 978-741-7900.

### **ARCHIVE: 2010**

#### **2010 September 18 Subject: EVENTS COASTSWEEP**

COASTSWEEP, the state-wide beach cleanup sponsored by the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management and the Urban Harbors Institute at UMass Boston, will kick off its 23rd year on Saturday, September 25 at Nahant Beach Reservation. A special thanks will be extended to the hundreds of volunteers who have participated in an Adopt-a-Beach activity this year.

Thousands of volunteers throughout Massachusetts turn out each year for this event, which is part of an international campaign organized by The Ocean Conservancy in Washington, DC. Participants all over the world collect marine debris and record what they find. This information is then used to help reduce future marine debris problems.

Cleanups are being scheduled throughout eastern Massachusetts in September and October, including one at the Marine Science Center as part of our Annual Open House on September 18th from 10am to 3pm. To participate or organize a cleanup, go to the COASTSWEEP website ([www.coastswEEP.umb.edu](http://www.coastswEEP.umb.edu)) or checkout COASTSWEEP on Facebook!

Festivities kickoff at 9:30 a.m. We are asking folks to get there at 9:00 to register and have a cup of coffee and a donut. A light lunch will also be provided afterwards.

For More Info Contact:

Carole McCauley | Outreach Program Coordinator  
Northeastern University Marine Science Center  
430 Nahant Road Nahant, MA 01908  
(781) 581-7370, x321  
[c.mccauley@neu.edu](mailto:c.mccauley@neu.edu) | [www.marinescience.neu.edu](http://www.marinescience.neu.edu)

## ARCHIVE: 2009

- \* **Subject: Acid Rain and Salem Harbor Power Plant.** Nahant is frequently downwind from the coal-fired Salem Power Plant, which produces the four criterial pollutants -- carbon dioxide, sulfur dioxide, nitrous oxides, and particulates -- and other acid-rain producing and health-threatening by-products of electricity generation.

There are other options, and HealthLink, an organization based on the North Shore, has been working for years to clean up the power plant. SWIM endorses HealthLink's work and works with HealthLink and other local environmental groups. The Conservation Law Foundation announced on January 27, 2010, that it intends to file a federal suit against Dominion Energy of New England for ongoing violations of smokestack emissions limits.

[DELETE: See the Health Link website for more: [www.healthlink.org](http://www.healthlink.org), which does not seem to be active anymore]

## ARCHIVE: 2009

### 2009 OCTOBER 27

**Subject: Award for Polly Bradley**

**From: Joan LeBlanc**

Dear Friends of SWIM,  
I'm writing to let you know that the Saugus River Watershed Council will present Polly Bradley with a

River Stewardship Award at it's annual meeting on November 17th, 6:30 p.m. at the Hilltop on Route 1 in Saugus. Polly was selected as a recipient this year because of her outstanding efforts in working to designate the Lower North Shore Area as a No Discharge Area for boater waste. I hope you will consider joining us at the annual meeting to thank Polly for all her hard work.

CONGRATULATIONS POLLY!

Joan LeBlanc  
Executive Director  
Saugus River Watershed Council

**ARCHIVE: 2008**

**2008 November 18 Letter from Brian Harrington on Birds and Nahant Causeway Wind Turbine Project**

**To:** Whomever Is Concerned

**From:** Brian Harrington, Retired Senior Scientist, Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences,

**Date:** November 18, 2008

**Re:** Wind Turbine Proposals for Nahant Causeway

I am concerned that a wind energy project proposed for the Nahant Causeway would lead to exceptionally high bird mortality due to its location between two bodies of water, i.e. in heavily used bird flightlines. I am writing as a recently retired bird biologist, with more than 30 years of research experience with the Manomet Center for Conservation Biology. I also am the Principal Coordinator of the International Shorebird Surveys.

Wind turbine proposals often raise concern among bird enthusiasts, in good part due to their reputation as 'bird-killers'. Much of this reputation dates back to early wind energy projects that were situated in poor locations with respect to bird activity. Today, many worthwhile wind projects are more carefully located, and offer relatively little threat to birds. But in the present case, the proposed 60 wind turbines along the 1.5 mile long Nahant Causeway would likely be major bird-killers. This is largely because the Nahant Causeway is bordered by Nahant Bay on the east and Lynn Harbor on the west, i.e. directly in the line of travel birds follow in commuting between the 2 water bodies. This would include a variety of shorebird, tern, gull and waterfowl species, potentially more than 60 species.

The proposed turbines will be on light poles along the length of the causeway, on both sides of the road. The height of the poles is 45 feet and turbine blades 16.4 feet in diameter.

Placing structures in bird flight-lines can lead to high mortality. As an example from my personal experience, I cite an electric power line (a relatively modest structure as compared to the wind project discussed here) running along a causeway with waters of a lagoon on both sides, where I worked for 5 seasons in Puerto Rico. I and college students working with me made a special effort to count numbers of birds killed by collision with the lines once a day. I have not carefully gone through my notes, but my recollection is that we found up to 20 birds a day that had collided with the line, and more typically found 6-8 per day. Likely others died but were not found (eg. drifted away or were carried away by crabs, vultures, etc.). Based on our counts, I conservatively estimate that roughly 300 birds a month were being killed. Most of them were shorebirds (sandpipers and plovers), but some herons and egrets, several waterfowl, some terns (even though scarce at the location), and one flamingo (1 of three we ever saw in the area).

**About Brian Harrington. . .**

Manomet Center For Conservation Science Retired Senior Scientist Brian Harrington has been studying the distribution and coastal ecology of shorebirds since 1972, focusing on migration and southern South American wintering areas. Brian, working with hundreds of cooperators, has led research on shorebird use of coastal habitat at migration stopover sites, as well as identifying major migration sites of shorebirds throughout the United States and southern Western Hemisphere nations. Much of his research has focused

