

Conservation Stewardship Collaborative Project Summary

Project Title: Invasive Species Preparedness

Goals: 1) To improve our collective, "synoptic" understanding of invasive species in Rhode Island; 2) provide accurate information about the state of invasives in Rhode Island to in-state and external stakeholders; and 3) direct those preparing for, or managing invasives to appropriate resources.

Brief Description: This project created a part-time invasive species coordinator housed within Rhode Island Natural History Survey. The specific duties of the coordinator were to: organize trainings for URI Watershed Watch, Land and Water Summit, etc.; participate in meetings and activities of the Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Panel (NEANS) and Invasive Plant Species of New England (IPANE); field individual inquiries; gather best practices and help populate the stewardship portal; keep up on and spreading word about new issues, discoveries, management strategies; and coordinate small rapid reaction events or helping organize large events with partner insitutions.

Deliverables: The deliverables for this project were:

1. Three training workshops to educate land stewards on how to identify and control invasive species.
2. Representation of Rhode Island at regional invasive species forums such as NEANS and IPANE.
3. Develop information for an invasive species section for the RINHS web site.

Project Status: The project was completed in 2009.

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