



# Waves

The Newsletter of Hickory Hills Landowners Inc.

[www.hickoryhillslake.com](http://www.hickoryhillslake.com)

978-582-6365

[hickoryhills@net1plus.com](mailto:hickoryhills@net1plus.com)

Spring 2017

## Help Wanted: Security Team Member

The Board of Directors is currently looking for a Security Team member to help our private lake for our members. Duties include inspecting boats and trailers for invasive weeds before and after entering our lake, visiting our 3 resident-only beaches to verify ID Cards for our members, patrolling our lake on our security boat verifying boat stickers are affixed on all boats in the water, automobiles at our parking area all have resident stickers, etc.

Personnel must be at least 18 yrs old to apply. If you're interested, please send a written letter to the Office by email and one of our Security Committee members will contact you.

## Please Help Purchase Survey Markers!



The Fanwort Survey team is looking for help to purchase pre-made lead-free Survey Markers to in **ORANGE & YELLOW**.

**We couldn't have been more fortunate to have a friend and neighbor like Jane Blake who donated ALL the H-shaped pieces we ordered to create the one's we launched with last season!**

If you want to help the fight, but don't have the time and wish there was another way, please consider purchasing 1 or 2 and send them to us at PO BOX 298, Lunenburg. We've found the lead free version called "Taylor Made Hot Spot" at both these online stores. Or add a donation with a note on your bills you'd like it to go directly for "marker materials". Thank you for considering!

<http://www.tacklewarehouse.com>

<http://www.basspro.com>

These markers solve an array of issues both our Fanwort Surveyors and DASH teams face using the noodle markers we use to use each year.

The problem is lead-free markers in this style are expensive! We now create and attach the weights by repurposing our existing steel rods, but the time it takes to create these beauty's is a lot when you need so many!

## Help Wanted: Youth Program Director & Assistants

The Board of Directors would like to offer a youth program again this summer. Each year we find this program to be a huge success and a welcomed event.



We are looking for a Director and 2 assistants for the 2017 season. The program

would run approximately six weeks, 2-4 hours per day at least three days per week at the Island Road Beach offering sports, crafts and nature activities. If you are interested in running the program or being one of the assistants to the Director please send a letter of interest including your experience to the HHL office email at [hickoryhills@net1plus.com](mailto:hickoryhills@net1plus.com).

## Take a Hike!



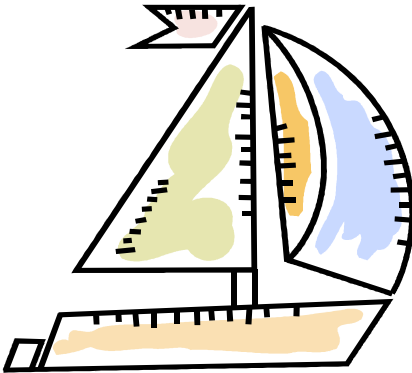
Hiking season is here! Time to enjoy some natural scenery with a hike through Hickory Woods! So set aside

**Sunday, May 7th** rain or shine and meet me at the trail head at 10 a.m. between 200 and 214 Island Road for a walking tour of Hickory Woods and the Town Forest which abuts it.

The walk is a beginner level hike, and will take us at a slow pace through the woods. We will cover approximately 3 miles, so bring your favorite walking stick and water, and we'll be off! Call or email Doug through the Office to confirm or to make arrangements for other dates! Office [hickoryhills@net1plus.com](mailto:hickoryhills@net1plus.com) (978) 582-6365.



Spring 2017



**Hickory Hills 2017  
Annual Boat Parade  
July 1st, Saturday at Noon  
From Island Road Beach**



**Hickory Hills Lake  
HATS for Sale**

Hickory Hills Lake hats for sale by the Lake Management Group Committee for \$15.00. If you're interested, contact the Office.

We all enjoy floating on our Pontoon boats on a warm summer day. Phyllis and Mario were no exception. They would load up their boat with snacks and drinks and head out for a glorious day in the sun, often with children and grandchildren. Their daily cruise of the lake and love of the islands, included stopping to enjoy the silky sand and shade trees that bordered these little gems. Mario would often take a nap in the warm air of the afternoon, but not Phyllis. Phyllis got to work. Over the years, the stress of wind, waves and visitors has caused some erosion on these small island beaches. We may hardly notice it, but it was plain to Phyllis that something had to be done. It was during one of their outings that she started to move stones. She could have laid in the sun, or swam, but that wasn't her priority. Phyllis took special attention to removing the stones from the water and placing them along the shore, to help prevent further erosion. Soon, every time they were on the boat, they would stop at her favorite spot, where she would continue to work the beach, making it her goal to move 100 stones a day. It was a labor of love.

Soon this special beach became known as Phyllis' Beach in honor of her work and commitment to the lake. This piece of island is unique and is a favorite resting place for boats, and for that we can thank Phyllis. Unfortunately, Mario and Phyllis have moved away, but their legacy lives on through Phyllis' Beach. In honor of her love of the lake, a granite sign has been erected by some of her neighbors where she worked and swam on this island. These neighbors felt it was important enough for you to know this story, so when you stop there and see her sign, you will know why it is there. Phyllis wanted everyone to enjoy the amazing beauty of the lake



**LANDFILL OPEN FOR  
YARD DEBRIS**



Lunenburg's Landfill off Young's Road will be open this season on six (6) consecutive Saturdays from **April 15th to May 20th 8am - 4pm** (travel permitted only on TOWN EASEMENT).

The accepted materials are grass clippings, bark mulch, wood chips, leaves, brush-diameter not to exceed three inches and some shrubbery & plantings, all containers must be removed.

No household trash, garbage or rubbish of any kind can remain at the landfill.



**Stay Clear  
Of Dive Flags**

The DASH Team Divers are a great group of people. Some not only volunteer scuba dive to remove the invasive weed Fanwort from our water, they also scuba survey the deeper areas for us marking plants along the way. If you see a **Red & White Dive Flag** floating in the water, **STAY CLEAR PLEASE. This indicates a diver is under**

**water close by.** To join in on the fun and become one of our DASH or SURVEY Divers, send an email to [fanwort@hickoryhillslake.com](mailto:fanwort@hickoryhillslake.com) today.



## 2017 Annual Bills

The 2017 HHL annual license fees statements were mailed on April 1st and are due by May 1st. Included is this seasons Boat Launch Schedule (also found on our website).

Please take a few minutes to read the letter enclosed; it answers some of the more frequently asked questions.

**Don't forget to update your email address and phone numbers. We only send 1 or 2 emails a month in the summer (rarely any off-summer), and we keep all contact information private.**

We also ask you to make any changes on the provided boat form for boat purchases and edits to existing boats.

To obtain a **FREE** car sticker which enables you to park in the resident-only beach lots, **please include a copy of your current vehicle registration.** This is one of the few ways we have to insure only residents are using our lake facilities. Even if you had a car sticker before, we cannot issue stickers without first seeing a copy of your current vehicle registration.

Landlords please ensure the office has current names & phone numbers for your tenants and register any boats they have; provide them with IDs; and give a copy of the license you receive from the office. We appreciate your help & cooperation in keeping our records up to date.

## SEVEN GABLES REALTY

**DAN CONSALVO**

102 Horizon Island Rd.

Lunenburg, MA

**978-235-3548**

[dan7gablesrealty@gmail.com](mailto:dan7gablesrealty@gmail.com)



## *Are you thinking about Selling?*

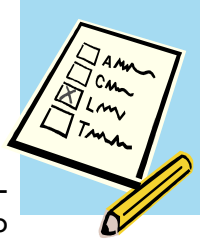
Call today to see how much *more* value your home gets from living on this beautiful lake. Living here myself gives YOU the advantage! I am able to share with potential buyers on how wonderful this lake is.

For HHL residents who list their home through me this year you will receive a thank you closing gift of \$200!!!

## *Do you know someone who is thinking about Buying or Selling?*

I am always happy to share my knowledge of real estate or answer any questions you may have about the process. **Please feel free to call or email me any-**

## Board of Directors Nominations



The Nominating Committee is accepting names of people interested in serving on the Board of Directors during 2017-2018. Any shareholder who would like to be nominated must notify the Nominating Committee in writing through our office via email at [hickoryhills@net1plus.com](mailto:hickoryhills@net1plus.com) or by mail to P. O. Box 298 by May 15. Please include a short bio describing a bit about yourself and experience and why you'd like to be a member of the Board of Directors. The names and biographical data on selected nominees will be mailed or emailed to shareholders in mid July.

## Island Road Office Open May 1st



The office on Island Road will reopen May 1st on Monday's, Wednesday's & Thursday's from 9am - 11am. The drop box located next to the door is there for your convenience and checked for mail often each week. Feel free to drop in envelopes anytime to pay your bills.

Stop by the Island Road Office to purchase bumper stickers, HHL t-shirts, sweatshirts, aerial lake photos, plaques, Boat Stickers & ID Cards.

To contact the Office, feel free to send an email to [hickoryhills@net1plus.com](mailto:hickoryhills@net1plus.com) or call 978 582-6365

## Annual Shareholder Meeting Reminder

The Hickory Hills Landowners Annual Shareholder meeting is scheduled for Saturday, September 16, 2017. In order to participate in the meeting and the management of Hickory Hills Landowners Inc., you must be a shareholder.

Any resident interested in purchasing a share can send a one time fee of \$240.00 (checks made out to Hickory Hills Landowners, Inc.). Shareholders receive a 50% discount for IDs, boat stickers and First Right of Refusal release fees. If you have additional questions regarding becoming a shareholder please email the office at [hickoryhills@net1plus.com](mailto:hickoryhills@net1plus.com) or call 978 582-6365.







Spring 2017

## There is no poop fairy — Please clean up after your dog

While most dog owners have never heard of the mythical figure, they said they wished it was real.

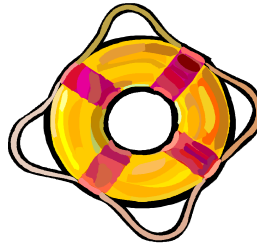


Not only is dog feces unpleasant to look at and smell, it can also make people and other dogs sick. Dog waste contains harmful bacteria and parasites such as E. coli, giardia and salmonella that pets or people can pick up if they come in contact with it.

Bacteria from dog waste can also contaminate groundwater and bodies of water such as creeks, rivers and lakes.

Dog waste also does not biodegrade as quickly as other animal waste. Because of the type of food that dogs eat, dog waste can take up to a year to decompose. The more hard waste left behind, the more it accumulates.

## Boating Basics Course



“Boat Massachusetts” is offered to the public at no charge. The primary purpose of the course is to foster safe boat operation through increased awareness of required safety equipment, safe boating practices and legal

responsibilities.

Youth 12 to 15 who successfully complete the course, will be issued a Safety Certificate allowing them to operate a boat without adult supervision, as required by state law. All graduates will be issued a course completion diploma and a Safety Certificate. Taking the class as a family is encouraged and has proven to be highly rewarding.

There are no currently scheduled courses in our area, but to find all the course schedules go to the Mass Environmental Police website at <http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dle/dlecours.htm> at or call 508-759-0002.

## Not all Boat Trailers are Equal — Fanwort is not the only Invasive Weed

While our lake certainly has seen it's share of Fanwort, we are very lucky to live on a lake that does not presently have Eurasian milfoil. In fact, Hickory Hills is remarkably one of only a few lakes in this state to be free of Eurasian milfoil. The reason we don't have this invader is that few boats with trailers are being transported from lake to lake. You may have read about the problems other area lakes have, caused by Eurasian Milfoil and other invasive weeds like ours called Fanwort. To help prevent these destructive weeds from entering our lake, we **all** have to take responsibility and carefully inspect the trailers that transport boats to our lake.

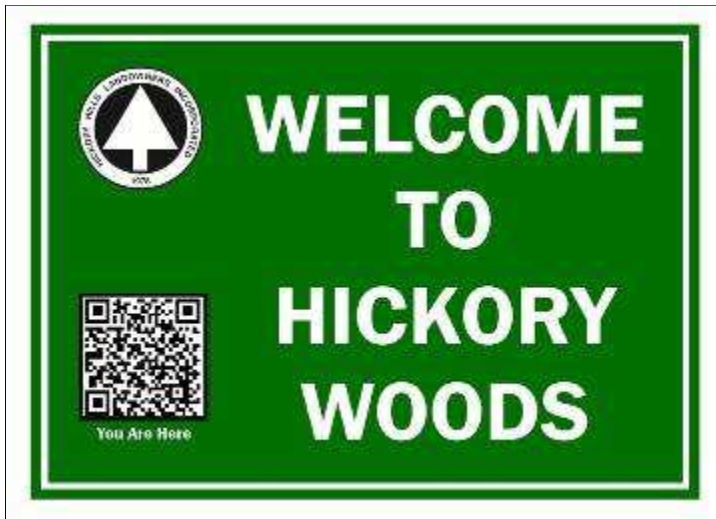
Many people just think that all lakes have this invasive plant, which is not true. **This is why continued education is our best defense and protector of our lake.**

At the beginning and end of the season, it's common practice by marine dealers to send boat trailers to other lakes and then send it here. Any weeds left on the trailer could drift off and consequently contaminate our lake. It's understood a lot of us don't own trailers, which makes it difficult to put boats in or out of the lake. Please remember to remind the marina who may be transporting your boat, to review our Boat Launch policy from our website. We hope that you all consider this as a way to ensure minimal danger to our lake. We don't know if we can stop a Milfoil invasion, but hopefully we can delay it for many years to come.





# New Signage for Hickory Woods

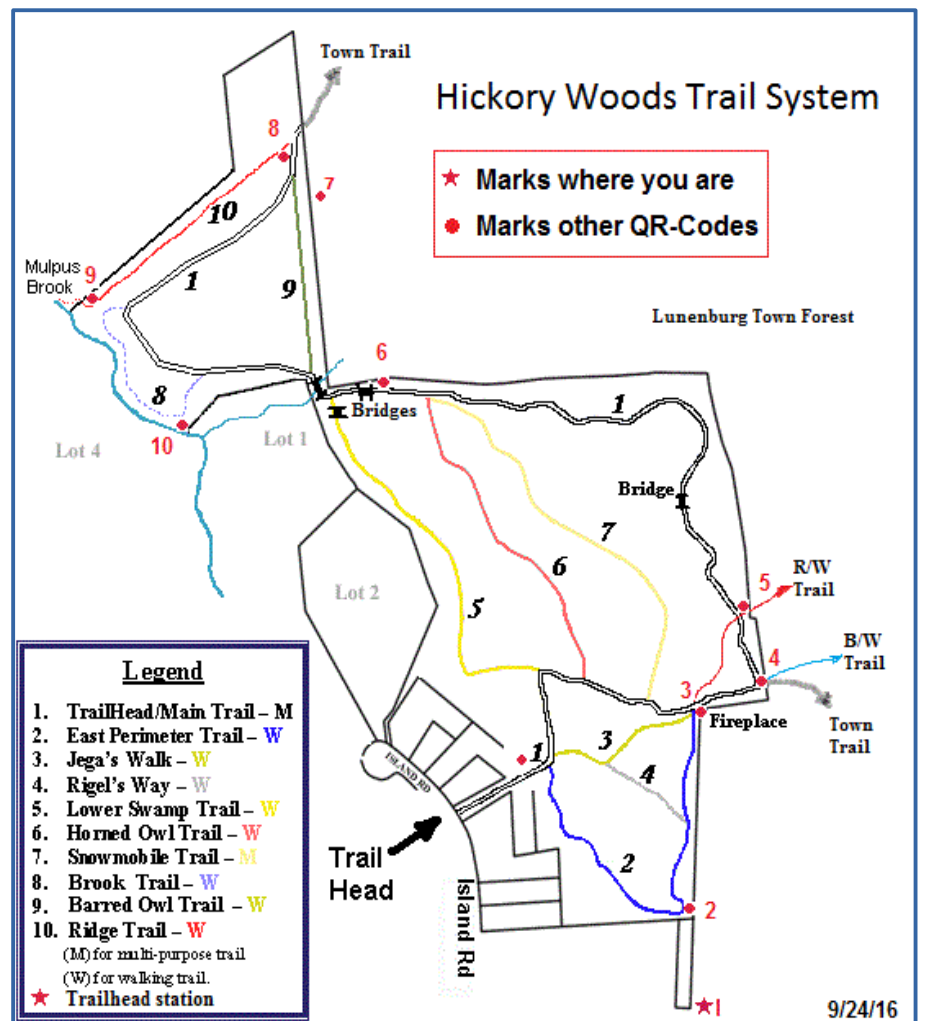


We are excited to announce new signs in Hickory Woods placed at key locations. The aim is to allow a person with a mobile phone to scan the sign and instantly have access to location information.

A smart phone user can download a QR code reader app. This app will read the QR code on the lower left of the sign. This will open a page on our website. You can actually try it on the image to the left. Note, you may incur data charges depending on your plan.

The web page opened will display a map of where you are, a description of the area and easy way(s) back out of the woods.

For example, at the trail head station, off of the Main Trail, there is a QR code image displayed. Scanning that code will give you the web page URL to the map on the right, a description of the trail you're on and way(s) to get back out of the woods. You can also see the other sign locations represented with red dots on the map as well.





Spring 2017

## Safety Reminders

Please help us keep our Islands safe from fire and follow our **no fires on islands** policy.

Another important safety policy is **no towing from boats** -exception is bringing a broken boat safely home.

**Right of Way: Canoes, kayaks, stand up paddle boards and sailboats ALWAYS have the right of way on the lake.** Motorboats must maintain a distance to prevent wash from motors splashing or causing excessive rocking of other boats are state laws. A link to the Massachusetts Boater Safety Handbook is available from our website.

## Beach Clean Up Day

Our annual Beach Clean up day is on for **Saturday, May 6th** at 10:00 a.m. with a rain date of Saturday, May 13th.

We are looking for volunteers to help clean up the HHL beaches. Meet your neighbors at any of the three beaches with your rakes. Anyone with a truck who can come & take some yard waste to the dump would be greatly appreciated. If people would like to bring baked goods, that would be great!

To help with the planning of this activity, please email the office if you plan to be there and THANK YOU!!!



## Got Weeds?

The Lake Management Group of Hickory Hills is excited to offer owners of lakefront property a simple means for waterfront beaches to be **freed of the nuisance of lake-bottom weeds.**

We have been running experiments with **benthic barriers** to help control lake-bottom weeds, and are now prepared to purchase materials for lakefront landowners who would like to deploy them on their own waterfront. We ask that any interested party donate some volunteer time for the activities of the LMG.



The benthic barriers are composed of biodegradable burlap sheeting and are held in place on the bottom with burlap sandbags, also biodegradable. The barrier prevents light from getting to the weeds, killing them in about 10 weeks. We suggest that the barriers be left in place to decompose, but they can be removed if you desire.

We have a limited amount of materials on hand and may have to place orders based on demand. Pricing is based on actual costs with no markup. The barriers are most effective when placed early in the season before weeds get too large.

**Pricing (2017) – based on cost plus shipping and handling**

**Shallow water installation (5 ft or less):** Burlap sheeting and sandbags

10' x 30' with 21 sandbags, one buoy: \$ 65

Waterfront 30' x 30', incl 3 strips, 50 sandbags: \$160

Actual costs may vary slightly due to inflation and actual shipping expenses. Sale is contingent on approval of application by the Hickory Hills Board of Directors. *We will provide instruction but installation is by homeowner.*

**IF YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED, PLEASE EMAIL STEVE,  
THROUGH THE OFFICE AT [hickoryhills@net1plus.com](mailto:hickoryhills@net1plus.com) OR CALL 978 582-6365**





## Hickory Hills Lake Fanwort Update and Request for Volunteers

As most of you know, Fanwort is an aggressive invasive weed. We've seen rapid growth and spread in our lake since discovering it and we're facing the real potential to see our lake devastated if it's not controlled. It originated in the boat ramp cove in 2011 and we have found sporadic growth since, in almost all areas of the lake over just the last 5 years. The boat ramp cove was treated with the chemical Clipper last year as the DASH was unable to treat there.

One of the major components of the fanwort effort is to find it! We do this through volunteers who survey the lake and identify any locations it's growing so we can remove it.

To make this task manageable, the lake has been mapped out into zones. Volunteers are requested to boat through their zone and report any suspicious plants they discover. Ideally, at minimum we would like to have a Zone Captain and 3 additional members for each Zone so that volunteers can be responsible for surveying only one day per month.

It's very important to find the plant so that it can be removed immediately by our DASH Team in order to prevent further spread. If you've seen the DASH and would like to help on a team or be a sub, that would great too!

Many thanks to all of the volunteers who already assist in both these efforts! **We really need more volunteers!** If you can only do one or two surveys a season or sub once on the DASH a year, it still will be a huge help! **Please** email the Office or call 978 582-6365 to sign up today.

If you're not able to volunteer on a regular basis, becoming familiar with the plant, keeping an eye out for it each time you're on the lake and **surveying your own beachfront regularly is important to our success.**

It's bright green color is unique in comparison to our native plants and its fan-like leaves are distinctive. If you see Fanwort **FLOATING** at the top of the water, please **pick it up**. If you see it growing, immediately leave the area and send an email with the zone number & location within the zone to **FANWORT@HICKORYHILLSLAKE.COM** or you can call the office at 582-6365 to report the location that way. Zone Maps are on our website.

**PLEASE DO NOT TOUCH THE PLANT IF IT'S ROOTED IN THE GROUND** - Fanwort is extremely fragile especially in late summer and spreads by fragmentation. A trained crew will be deployed to remove the plants.

If you see a marker in the lake, immediately leave the area and **PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE THE MARKER.**

Fanwort reproduces by fragmentation. Remember, swimming or boating in an area with Fanwort could cause the plant to fragment & spread.



### Looking for a Survey Chairperson

We've got a new map, we've got new markers, our list of volunteers is organized and waiting for you to take the reins and lead the team this season!

Thanks to Nicole Waters for Chairing the last couple of years and Fred Malcolm for even more before then, but now it's your turn to take the lead and help out to fight against Fanwort. If interested, please give the office a call or email!

### Markers Glow at Night?

Last year the reflective tape we tested on our markers didn't glow from Pontoon running lights (only from headlights or flashlight). Glow tape and paint did not work either. If you have any ideas how to achieve illuminating our floating markers at night, please pass it on to us! We'd love to find a small Solar LED light that could attach to our markers and buy them in bulk.

A solution will help **greatly** limit the spread of Fanwort by boats if we all take notice. Thank you for your continued cooperation!



Spring 2017

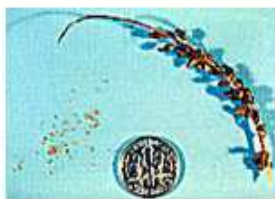
## PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE

Purple Loosestrife is an invasive weed found at the shorelines here at Hickory Hills Lake. It can grow between 2 and 7 feet high. Purple loosestrife invades marshes and lakeshores, replacing wetland plants. The plant can form dense, impenetrable stands which are unsuitable as cover, food, or nesting sites for a wide range of native wetland animals. Once in aquatic systems, seeds are easily spread by moving water and wetland animals.

### IDENTIFYING PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE



**Flower:** Individual flowers have five or six pink-purple petals surrounding small, yellow centers. Each flower spike is made up of many individual flowers.



**Seed Capsule:** As flowers begin to drop off, capsules containing many tiny seeds appear in their place. Depending on where you live, plants may go to seed as early as late July.

**Seed:** Each mature plant can produce up to 2.7 million seeds annually. As tiny as grains of sand, seeds are easily spread by water, wind, wildlife and humans. Germination can occur the following season, but seeds may lay dormant for several years before sprouting.



**Leaves:** Leaves are downy, with smooth edges. They are usually arranged opposite each other in pairs which alternate down the stalk at 90 degree angles, however, they may appear in groups of three.

**Stalks:** Stalks are square, five or six-sided, woody, as tall as 2 meters (over 6 feet) with several stalks on mature plants.



**Rootstock:** On mature plants, rootstocks are extensive and can send out up to 30 to 50 shoots, creating a dense web which chokes out other plant life.

### REMOVING PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE

It easiest to remove plants with larger roots by easing the root out with a garden fork. Remove as much of the root system as possible, because broken roots may sprout new plants.

Once flower petals start to drop from the bottom of the spike, the plant begins to produce seed. Remove all of the flowering spikes by bending them over a plastic bag and cutting them off in the bag. Cutting of stems or pulling can now begin without fear of spreading the tiny seeds.





# PURPLE LOOSESTRIPE ZONE MAP – 8/30/15

NOTE: SOME LOCATIONS ARE ESTIMATES

PURPLE LOOSESTRIPE IS REMOVED FROM RED ZONES BELOW EACH YEAR

PLEASE CONSIDER HELPING ANNE & WALT REMOVE THIS PLANT THIS SPRING  
PURPLE LOOSESTRIPE IS MARKED BELOW BY A PURPLE SQUARE

