

Weymouth Beach Connection

Site visit June 16, 2017; Updated May 3, 2019

Vegetation Assessment – late spring 2017

Note: The site was broken into zones based on vegetation characteristics, starting from River Road and moving to the west towards Wessagussett Road. The list below characterizes each zone and lists all observable species. Asterisks denote invasive plants (as documented by Mass Audubon or the Massachusetts Prohibited Plants List from the Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs), aggressive, or undesirable species, while other desirable species are listed without an asterisk. The first time a plant is listed below, the botanical name is also listed. On the accompanying plan, specimen trees which should be protected have been noted.

- Zone A: American beachgrass (*Ammophila breviligulata*) stand
- Zone B: (Restoration zone at 15 Regatta Road)  
Recent planting of junipers (*Juniperus procumbens*) at top of slope, switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*), beach plum (*Prunus maritima*), bayberry (*Morella/Myrica pensylvanica*) along slope and American beachgrass on lower slope  
\*Phragmites (*Phragmites australis*) treated
- Zone B2: Turfgrass and \*English ivy (*Hedera helix*)
- Zone C: \*Phragmites (*Phragmites australis*), \*Oriental bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*), mixed invasive vines and shrubs
- Zone D: Mixed invasives with \*bittersweet entangled in most trees: \*Norway maples (*Acer palatanoides*), \*tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*)
- Zone E: \*Autumn olive (*Eleangus umbellata*)  
Quaking aspen stand (*Populus tremuloides*), less than 20' tall,
- Zone F: \*Autumn olive, \*tree of heaven, \*multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*), \*pale swallow-wort (*Cynanchum rossicum*), \*Phragmites  
2 Cherry trees (*Prunus serotina*) at toe of bank
- Zone G: \*Multiflora rose, young \*Norway maples, \*multiflora rose, \*Virginia creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*)  
Pussy willow (*Salix discolor*) and 2 cherry trees at toe of bank, mixed grasses and wildflowers
- Zone H: Young \*Norway maples, young \*tree of heaven, \*Virginia creeper, \*multiflora rose, \*bittersweet, \*garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolate*) groundcover  
Lots of dead limbs and tree debris
- Zone I: Dense \*bittersweet, \*tree of heaven, \*multiflora rose, young \*Norway maples

- Weeping willow (*Salix babylonica*) at toe of bank
- Zone J: Dense \*bittersweet, large \*Norway maples (9" caliper max. average), \*tree of heaven  
Cherry trees, tree at stairs, large cherry  
Milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*) in beachgrass stand
- Zone K: \*Multiflora rose, dense \*Norway maples & \*tree of heaven, \*bittersweet  
Staghorn sumac (*Rhus typhina*), swamp white oak (*Quercus bicolor*) on slope  
Hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*) and young elm (*Ulmus americana*) at toe of bank
- Zone L: (Restoration zone at 67 Regatta Road) ~~Staghorn sumac at top of slope~~  
(Removed 2019)  
Recent (2016) planting of 40 native shrub species bayberry (*Prunus maritima*), sweet pepperbush (*Clethra alnifolia*), shadbush (*Amelanchier canadensis*), Beach plum (*Prunus maritima*) plus coastal salt tolerant grass seed mix on the bank, as well as a planting of American beachgrass with 2 culms per location at 12 to 18 inches on center
- Zone M: Dense stretch of tall canopy trees: significant \*Norway maple stand, significant \*bittersweet, some \*multiflora rose, \*knotweed  
Young cherries, young elm trees at toe of bank, staghorn sumac
- Zone N: (Riprap zone) Mainly \*bittersweet, \*Norway maples (15 to 20 feet tall max.), \*pale swallow-wort, \*multiflora rose  
Milkweed, gray birch (*Betula papyrifera*), quaking aspen, staghorn sumac, serviceberry trees
- Zone O: \*Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) predominant, \*bittersweet,
- Zone P: Large \*Norway maples and intensive vines: \*multiflora rose, \*bittersweet, \*Virginia creeper  
Staghorn sumacs
- Zone Q: \*Bittersweet, \*Virginia creeper, \*Japanese honeysuckle, \*Norway maples
- Zone R: Mixed \*knotweed and mature canopy trees, predominantly \*Norway maples, plus \*bittersweet, \*autumn olive, \*multiflora rose, \*pale swallow-wort, \*knotweed, \*poison ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*) significant along revetment  
Cherry tree, apple tree (*Malus spp.*)
- Zone S: Large \*Norway maples, \*Virginia creeper (most aggressive in this zone), \*poison ivy, \*bittersweet, \*multiflora rose, \*box elder (*Acer negundo*) near stairs, \*autumn olive  
Apple trees near revetment, some tall grasses, silver maple(s) (*Acer saccharium*)
- Zone T: \*Phragmites stand between break of revetment and large riprap area



- Zone U: (Zone below lookout parking/the "shelf") Significant \*knotweed and \*cleavers/bedstraw (*Galium aparine*), \*tree of heaven, \*Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*), crabapple (*Malus spp.*), staghorn sumac (*Rhus typhina*) Goldenrod (*Solidago spp.*), apple trees, honey locust (*Gleditsia tricanthos*),
- Zone V: \*Phragmites, \*Japanese honeysuckle, with mixed dense vegetation including \*Norway maples
- Small staghorn sumac stand