How to Love Your Pond

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Kettle Ponds
Coastal Plain Ponds

• Characteristics
  • Sandy, gravelly bottom
  • Seasonal fluctuation in water levels
  • Globally threatened habitat – “coastal plain pondshore plant community”
Considerate Owners Pick Up After Their Pets

Dog Waste in Nature is Unhealthy.

Please Dispose of used Mut-Mitts Responsibly.

Mutt-Mitt
On the shoreline

• Avoid trampling
• Avoid alteration
• Pick up trash
• Use alternative to styrofoam floats
• Report invasive species and support control
• Store boats upland
• Insure boats are clean of weeds
What is stormwater?

• Rainwater
• Melted snow and ice
• Report stormwater problems
• Encourage Neighborhood Association to undertake regular stormwater maintenance
• Pursue stormwater improvement projects using “green infrastructure”
Nature Does It Best
A Rain Garden

- A shallow depression, planted with deep-rooted native plants
- Captures stormwater
- Right plant, right place
WHERE DOES THE RAIN GO?

On Cape Cod, this is an important question.
Chemically-treated Turf Lawn

40 Million Acres of lawn in the US - more than the eight largest irrigated crops combined
Stormwater Runoff Demonstration
Mulch Volcano
Employ Eco-Landscape Practices

- More plants, less wood mulch
- Go Chem Free
- Minimize lawn
- Manage rainwater
- Go Native! - wisely
- Preserve wild edges
- Design to reduce energy input
- Conserve water
- Minimize hardscape
- Maintain a deep vegetated buffer
- Leave the leaves!
Plant Natives - they support life
For Birds’ Sake!

Caterpillars are the sustenance of baby birds

- 96% of terrestrial birds feed their young caterpillars
- One clutch of chickadees requires 5,000 caterpillars
- More than 90% of the larva of moths and butterflies require native plants

Plant native & go chem-free
Conserve Water - and energy

Reduce Runoff
Permeable Applications
What else can you do?

- Live an intelligent lifestyle
- Join a pond group
- Start a pond group!
- Volunteer to monitor
- Take ownership

Love Your Pond
Thank you

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