



Great Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve's Field Notes Summer 2009

#### CLS News

The Great Bay Reserve welcomes its newest Community Land Steward Ruth McNamara. Her property is right on the bay and as you can see from the picture she sent us she is already hard at work. By packing it out and also using her kayak, Ruth was able to remove 32 pounds of trash! Thank you for your dedication and hard work.

Please keep your monitoring forms coming in. We so appreciate that you all are out there visiting your properties, but unless you send us your forms we can't document your time and efforts. We'd also welcome any photos or anecdotes of your visits to feature in upcoming editions.





photo by Steve Mirick

This spring, in early April, noted local birder Steve Mirick spotted an unusual visitor on one of the Reserve properties, a Great Gray Owl. Word spread quickly and led to quite a few visitors hoping for a glimpse. If you'd like to learn more about this rarely seen bird [click here.](#) While viewing wildlife is an exciting event, it is one that carries responsibility with it. To read a Fish and Game article on the ethics, tools and techniques of wildlife viewing [click here.](#)

The Great Bay Resource Protection Partnership Celebratory Event on May 18th went off without a hitch. If you'd like to read about reaching this 5,000 acre milestone and Senator Gregg's attendance at this event, [click here.](#)

#### Professional Development



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To attend a workshop and learn more about managing forestland for migratory birds [click here.](#)



To learn more about managing fields for wildlife [click here.](#)



To attend a one night course to get a basic introduction to GIS and making maps of NH [click here.](#)



[Click here](#) and learn more about the 7th Annual Woods, Water and Wildlife Festival.



To learn more about attending the Watershed Ecology Institute this summer [click here](#).

The next time you are out walking your property or even in your own backyard, which plants would you recognize as being non-native? Does that necessarily mean they are invasive? Although both kinds of plants can be bold and aggressive, there is a big difference between the two and how they affect wildlife.

	Native		Non-Native	
<b>Non-Aggressive</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Jack-in-the-pulpit</li><li>High Bush Blueberry</li><li>Sweet Pepper Bush</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Lamb's Ear</li><li>Dandelion</li><li>Apple</li></ul>	
	<b>Aggressive</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Poison Ivy</li><li>Staghorn Sumac</li><li>Virginia Creeper</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Common Barberry</li><li>Japanese Knotweed</li><li>Black Swallow Wart</li></ul>

If you would like to learn more about why invasive plants can be so harmful, as well as build your plant ID skills, check out the websites I've listed below. Then on the next visit to your property you can be put to the test!

[It's your choice: Invasive Plant Control Options for Landowners](#)  
[Weeds Gone Wild](#)  
[Global Species Invasive Database](#)  
[Cornell University Management of Invasives Species Program](#)

If you'd like to discover more native plants that would be great for your own backyard visit these two sites. Be sure to always check the distribution for the plants, as some of them are not native specifically to NH, but only to the US.

[Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center](#)  
[Plant Native](#)

**Enjoy the lazy days of summer!**



summer on Great Bay

It seems as though we wait so long for summer to arrive and it's gone in the blink of an eye. Here's hoping that you all get to enjoy some quiet moments that capture the epitome of summer. Feel the sun on your face, the grass or cool water on your toes, and the smell of the barbecue! Stay safe and have fun.