

Town of Groton
Invasive Species Committee
18 May 2026
Meeting Minutes



Committee Members Present:

Charlotte Weigel
Jonathan Basch
Olin Lathrop
Adam Burnett
Ron Strohsahl
Ann Carpenter

Committee Members Not Present:

Brian Bettencourt

Agenda:

1. Review minutes and action items from last meeting
 2. Upcoming events and treatments
 3. All other business
-

The Meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.

1. The first order of business was: Review minutes and action items from the April 21 meeting
 - a. Minutes:
 - i. Minutes amended for accuracy
 1. Olin Lathrop moved to approve the minutes as amended
 2. Ron Strohsahl seconded the motion
 3. The motion passed by roll call vote (4-0-1)
 - a. Abstain: Charlotte Weigel
 - b. Action Items:
 - i. Assigned Previously:
 1. **Olin Lathrop** to discuss placing the Lanternfly trap adjacent to the Olivia Way homeowner property
 - a. Completed - he approves and he is willing to monitor the trap
 - b. Olin Lathrop and Jonathan Basch will schedule to set up trap around weekend of May 30
 2. **Adam Burnett** to submit reimbursement receipt to Town for sprayer extension purchase
 - a. Completed, monies received

ACTION ITEM: Adam Burnett to send extension connector specifications to Jonathan Basch for possible 3D printer fabrication

3. **Jonathan Basch** to reach out to the (Department of Public Works) DPW head - Brian Callahan
 - a. Ongoing, email sent, no response at this time

ACTION ITEM: Jonathan Basch to follow up with the DPW head, Brian Callahan, regarding previous email

4. **Jonathan Basch** to send email to schedule barberry removal at Groton Town Forest

**Town of Groton
Invasive Species Committee
18 May 2026
Meeting Minutes**



Town of
Groton
Massachusetts

- a. Completed, Jonathan Basch and Ann Carpenter went to Groton Town Forest and removed Japanese barberry
2. The second order of business was: Upcoming events and treatments
 - a. Groton Riverfest - Sunday June 14, 2026
 - i. Drop materials off at 10:30am and park at Nashua River Watershed Association
 - ii. Ann Carpenter has laminated sheets and will bring them
 1. Will develop additional child friendly events
 - iii. Jonathan Basch and Adam Burnett to bring folding tables (Ann Carpenter has an additional one, if necessary), Olin Lathrop also plans to attend
 - b. Japanese knotweed treatments in next couple of weeks
 - i. West Groton fire station
 - ii. Groton Electric and Light Department (GELD)
 - iii. Japanese knotweed population growing through mulch
 1. May be too small for cut-and-drip treatment
 - iv. Petapawag boat launch
 1. Wait until after NRWA volunteer event
 2. Jonathan Basch: should complete during the middle of the week to reduce public interaction with chemically treated plants
 - v. Olin Lathrop pulled small Japanese knotweed sprouts at Nipmuc Meadows and left them to solarize in roadway
 - c. Lanternfly traps install scheduled for end of May
 - d. Nod Road - plan for triclopyr spray on remaining invasives because area is repopulating with grass
 - e. Surrenden Farms along Nashua River
 - i. Double-sided Invasive Species treatment area sign placed along bank and is viewable from water
 - f. Carol Wheeler Park / MBTA property
 - i. Town has Vegetative Management Agreement with MBTA
 - ii. Town Conservation Commission issued negative Determination of Applicability under the Wetland Protection Act and Town Wetland bylaw for treatments, allowing spraying
 - iii. Stewardship Committee received grant for seed mix to repopulate after treatments
 - iv. Plan is to allow existing Japanese knotweed to grow taller and treat in late June utilizing the cut-and-drip method for the first treatment
 - g. Williams Barn
 - i. Japanese barberry and Asiatic bittersweet throughout property
 - ii. Good location to recommend for volunteer assistance because plentiful parking, easy access to invasives, and a lot of different invasives
3. The third order of business was: All other business
 - a. No discussion
4. Meeting Adjournment
 - a. Olin Lathrop moved to adjourn

**Town of Groton
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18 May 2026
Meeting Minutes**



Town of
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Massachusetts

- b. Ann Carpenter seconded
- c. The motion to adjourn approved by unanimous roll call vote

The meeting adjourned at 7:37 PM.

OLD ACTION ITEMS + NEW:

1. **Adam Burnett** to send extension connector specifications to Jonathan Basch for possible 3D printer fabrication
2. **Jonathan Basch** to follow up with the DPW head, Brian Callahan, regarding previous email