

**Town of Groton
Invasive Species Committee
15 June 2026
Meeting Minutes**



Committee Members Present:

Charlotte Weigel
Jonathan Basch
Olin Lathrop
Adam Burnett
Ron Strohsahl

Committee Members Not Present:

Brian Bettencourt
Ann Carpenter

Agenda:

1. Review minutes and action items from last meeting
 2. Updates from recent treatments and activities
 3. Upcoming events and treatments
 4. All other business
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The Meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.

1. The first order of business was: Review minutes and action items from the May 18, 2026, meeting
 - a. Minutes:
 - i. Minutes amended for accuracy
 1. Olin Lathrop moved to approve the minutes as amended
 2. Charlotte Weigel seconded the motion
 3. The motion passed by unanimous vote

- b. Action Items:

- i. Assigned Previously:
 1. Adam Burnett to send extension connector specifications to Jonathan Basch for possible 3D printer part fabrication
 - a. Brought modified extension part to meeting to discuss the attachment and joining parts

ACTION ITEM: Olin Lathrop to research purchase history and evaluate costs of new spray wand from Hudson Pro

2. Jonathan Basch to follow up with the DPW head, Brian Callahan, regarding previous email about Vegetative Management Plan
 - a. No response, will follow up
2. The second order of business was: Updates from recent treatments and activities
 - a. Olin Lathrop completed spot treatments of Japanese knotweed with diluted triclopyr (Garlon 4 Ultra)
 - i. Two patches of Japanese knotweed on Farmers Row at base of telephone poles, across from General Field
 - ii. GELD
 1. Missed one plant that will need treatment this weekend
 2. Also sprayed Asiatic bittersweet

**Town of Groton
Invasive Species Committee
15 June 2026
Meeting Minutes**



- iii. Nipmuc Meadows
 - 1. Japanese knotweed sprouts still growing, needs continued treatments
 - iv. End of Hayden Road
 - 1. Observed Japanese knotweed sprouts still growing, needs continued treatments
 - 2. Some leaves are already brown 1 week after treatment
 - a. Will monitor next weekend
 - v. Along Nod Road
 - 1. Observed Japanese knotweed sprouts still growing, needs continued treatments
- b. Jonathan Basch talked to Olivia Way homeowner and set up spotted lanternfly trap on 6/9/26
- 1. First instar lanternfly nymphs are active through July
 - 2. Groton Riverfest participants reported seeing lanternflies in Worcester
- c. Adam Burnett and Jonathan Basch went to Campbell Well on 6/13/26
- 1. Two hours of searching to locate Japanese knotweed
 - 2. Mostly native growth filling in, but treated Japanese knotweed stragglers
 - a. Mostly deer-tongue grass repopulating
 - b. Seeding was more successful than the shrub plantings
 - i. Seed growth succession suppressed Japanese knotweed growth
 - c. We should use this as a case-study for repopulating the exposed areas after removal of the Squannacook River Dam
- d. Groton Riverfest on 6/14
- i. Ann Carpenter, Jonathan Basch, Olin Lathrop were on-site to represent Committee
 - ii. Handed out brochures and had discussion with visitors
 - 1. May need initial prints of additional brochures
3. The third order of business was: Upcoming events and treatments
- a. Olin Lathrop planning to treat sites this upcoming week
 - i. MBTA and Carol G. Wheeler Park this weekend (6/20)
 - 1. Need 2-3 people to cut stems with applicator to follow and spray into stem
 - 2. Will email Stewardship Committee for volunteers, and Conservation Commission if no availability from Stewardship members
- ACTION ITEM: Olin Lathrop** to request volunteers from Stewardship from 12-2p on 6/20, or on 6/21 (weather dependent)
- b. Groton Country Club Japanese knotweed on hillside near parking
- i. Need to use extension sprayer
 - 1. Timing: Try to treat early evening this week (6/15-6/20) with Roundup Custom
 - ii. Adam Burnett and Olin Lathrop are available on 6/16, Jonathan Basch is also available after 1730 to assist
4. The fourth order of business was: All other business
- a. Spraying completed at GELD, so Committee can request donation
- ACTION ITEM: Olin Lathrop** to create "invoice" for donation

**Town of Groton
Invasive Species Committee
15 June 2026
Meeting Minutes**



- b. Charlotte Weigel to attempt to ask homeowner on Northwoods Drive to attach lanternfly trap to tree-of-heaven

ACTION ITEM: Charlotte Weigel to contact Northwoods Drive homeowner to hang and access lanternfly trap through July 2026

- c. Charlotte Weigel to leave Invasive Species Committee
 - i. Resignation effective at end of meeting (6/15)
 - ii. Will continue assisting education program at Middle School with Committee
- d. Future recruiting efforts
 - i. Interested people attended Riverfest
 - 1. Let people know there are openings on the Committee
 - ii. Consider attending Grotonfest because of large crowds of local townfolk
 - 1. Con: costs money to have table
 - iii. Consider Eagle Scouts for volunteer assistance

5. Meeting Adjournment

- a. Olin Lathrop moved to adjourn
- b. Adam Burnett seconded
- c. The motion to adjourn approved by unanimous vote

The meeting adjourned at 7:57 PM.

OLD ACTION ITEMS + NEW:

- 1. **Olin Lathrop** to research purchase history and evaluate costs of new spray wand from Hudson Pro
- 2. **Olin Lathrop** to request volunteers from Stewardship from 12-2p on 6/20, or on 6/21 (weather dependent)
- 3. **Olin Lathrop** to create "invoice" for donation
- 4. **Charlotte Weigel** to contact Northwoods Drive homeowner to hang and access lanternfly trap through July 2026