

# Invasive Species are Everywhere: How You Can Help

*What lives in Falmouth, grows 6 inches a day and is destroying the habitat of our native species? Join MA Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) Forestry Assistant Alexandra Echandi in an indoor discussion of Mile-a-Minute vine, an invasive weed recently identified in Falmouth, Milton and Canton. Learn how to identify, report and help control the spread of this and other invasive species such as the Asian Longhorn Beetle throughout the Commonwealth.*

**Wednesday, April 21  
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM**

Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve  
149 Waquoit Highway (Route 28)

Invasive species damage our crops, our industries, the environment and public health. Some invasives like Purple Loosestrife are introduced intentionally, while others, like the Asian Longhorn Beetle and Mile-a-Minute arrive accidentally via commerce. Most invasives typically arrive unnoticed, however, all invasives are common in that they are non-native (or alien) to the questioned ecosystem and their introduction causes or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health. Thus, public outreach and

education are imperative in the early detection and removal of invasive species. This lecture will focus on learning how to identify, report and help control the spread of invasive species, specifically Mile-a-Minute, and the Asian Longhorn Beetle throughout the Commonwealth.

Mile-a-minute vine is an annual vine native to Asia. It can be recognized by its perfectly triangular leaves, barbed stems, and clusters of blue berries. If left alone, this vine can quickly cover large areas, scrambling over other plants as well as fences and other structures. Also known as "devil's tail" or "Asiatic tear-thumb," Mile-a-Minute vine was first discovered in Massachusetts in 2006 in two locations: Falmouth (Barnstable County) and Milton (Norfolk County). Populations of Mile-a-Minute vine in Falmouth are being monitored by the DCR and the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, and are currently under eradication. Eradication efforts include management via manual, chemical, cultural and biological means. This summer, the DCR will release biocontrol weevils in Falmouth locations as part of a USDA APHIS-PPQ Biocontrol Agreement.

Photo by Fall River Street Tree Planting Program

The Asian Longhorn beetle (ALB), discovered in Worcester, MA in August 2008, is an invasive pest of hardwood trees, including maple, birch and elm. The spread of this pest would cause serious negative impacts to the maple sugaring, nursery, tourism and forest product industries, as well as to our state's forest, park and street trees. The DCR, the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (DAR), and Worcester, Boylston, West Boylston, Holden and Shrewsbury are partnering with the U.S. Forest Service and USDA APHIS-PPQ to coordinate a management plan to eradicate this species in Massachusetts. DCR and DAR are asking all Massachusetts residents to be on the lookout for the Asian Longhorn Beetle.

## All Welcome

To register please visit [www.waquoitbayreserve.org](http://www.waquoitbayreserve.org); walk-ins welcome.  
Light refreshments will be served.

**Additional information please contact:**

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Purple Loosestrife