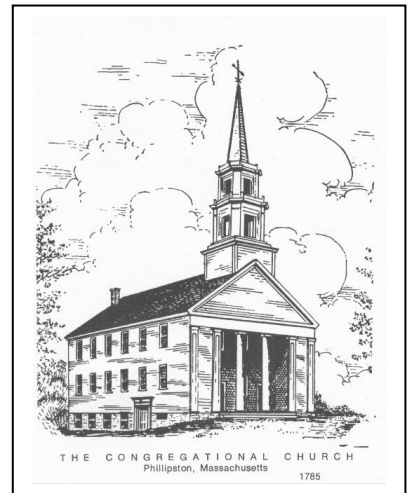


Congregational Church of Phillipston, U.C.C.  
60 The Common  
Phillipston, MA 01331



Phillipston  
Community  
Newsletter

# September 2020



The Phillipston Congregational Church, U.C.C.  
Our Community Church

Dear Friends,

This last week of August, the Narragansett School District staff return to work. I am anxious about them and I am sure they are anxious about themselves, and the students. This is a scary time for everyone involved in education in the United States. We pray for bus drivers, cafeteria workers, custodians, aides, teacher, students, administrators, school nurses, and everyone involved in education. We pray for those returning to college and those who will be learning online.

I remember the words by Mary Luti which if offer up for all who are involved in education:

"Our worship has ended, but its gifts remain: Tuck its praise inside you. Take its goodness with you. Drink from its wells of lasting peace. Live by its light, its courage and grace, and don't be afraid. Regard all people as your people. In hard times and good take care of yourself, take care of your people and don't be afraid. And may the blessing of God, our life, the friendship of Christ, our healer, and the daring of the Spirit, our truth, be ours today, and everyday to come. "

May God be with you all as a new school year begins.

Your sister in Christ,

Rev. Stephanie C. Flynn

P.S. Outside worship on the Phillipston Common will be September 6 and September 20.

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## What are invasive plants?

Invasive plants are non-native species that have spread into native or minimally managed plant systems in Massachusetts. These plants cause economic or environmental harm by developing self-sustaining populations that dominate and/or disrupt native ecosystems. Invasives have left behind the herbivores and diseases that typically control their populations in their native habitats, and they have reproductive mechanisms that allow them to rapidly grow, mature, and spread. Apart from forming dense stands that crowd or shade-out natives, certain invasive species can alter ecosystem processes such as hydrology, soil chemistry, and the frequency of natural fires.

# **The Phillipston Congregational Church On the Common, Phillipston, MA IS TEMPORARILY CLOSED DUE TO THE COVID-19 VIRUS**

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**ON SUNDAY September 6<sup>th</sup> AND SUNDAY September 20<sup>th</sup>**

Pastor Stephanie will be leading the service, standing in front of the church with

Attendees parking around the Phillipston Common, staying in their cars or sitting on the front lawn of the church.

A joyous time to celebrate our risen Lord Jesus! GOD BLESS US ALL!

**We are praying for the victims of this pandemic and praying that all of you be safe.  
Amen.**

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## **NOW OPEN !**

**COME AND SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL CRAFTERS & FARMERS  
WEDNESDAY's ~ 3:00 to 6:00 pm  
at Historical Society Property ~ 80 State Road**

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**Phillipston Residents - Your Town Needs You!**

The Selectmen are looking for residents who enjoy living in Phillipston and would like to serve the town in any way they can. Please contact the Selectmen's office to volunteer to make Phillipston a better place to live and raise a family, 978-249-6828 or

[selectman@phillipston-ma.gov](mailto:selectman@phillipston-ma.gov).

THE NEWSLETTER IS ON [www.phillipston.com](http://www.phillipston.com)

**Octoberber 2020 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS September 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**For more info go to : [www.phillipston.com/priceinfo.pdf](http://www.phillipston.com/priceinfo.pdf)**

# *Phillips Free Public Library*

## **Library Hours- for Curbside Pick-up**

*Tuesday 9-2pm*

*Wednesday 5-7pm*

## **Board of Trustees Meeting**

*Tuesday, October 6, 2020...*

*meeting to be held outdoors*

## **Attention: All Phillipston Elementary Students (Parents) !**

WE are missing MANY library books that were borrowed during the class visits, and likely went home with students, before the school year came to an abrupt end.

PLEASE, if you have a former Phillipston Elementary Student, look through your home for any stray library books (all are stamped inside with our library's name) We are a very small library with an equally small collection, and we cannot afford to lose so many books...

Books may be returned in the black 'mailbox' by the road, or during our staffed hours : Tuesday 9-2, Wednesday 5-7. Thank you!

## **Curbside Delivery**

While the library remains closed to the public, we are offering 'curbside delivery' during the hours listed above. Requests for materials may be placed by: calling the library at (978) 249-1734, and leaving a message, or speaking to a staff member, OR by emailing your request to: [phillipstonlibrary@comcast.net](mailto:phillipstonlibrary@comcast.net). Please leave a good number to call you to arrange pick-up of your materials outside the library. Returns may be placed in the box at the end of the ramp, or in the black 'mailbox' by the road.

## **Free Produce**

There will be a box of fresh produce from the Templeton Food Pantry at the end of the library's ramp every Tuesday 9-2. Please stop by to see what is available, and take what you can use.

## **Inter-library Loan**

We are pleased to announce that our Inter-library loan service is back! Requests for materials which our library does not own, may be placed (with a barcoded library card) on [www.cwmars.org](http://www.cwmars.org), or by calling the library (978) 249-1734 – leave a message if we don't answer. Your materials should arrive in 1-2 weeks.

## **Other Materials Requests**

As we slowly begin to receive book & materials orders, we encourage anyone who would like the library to purchase a new release for our collection, to please call (978) 249-1734, or email ([phillipstonlibrary@comcast.net](mailto:phillipstonlibrary@comcast.net)) your requests.

**HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY**  
**Saturday, September 26, 2020 at the Orange Transfer Station.**  
**Pre-Registration Required by September 18<sup>th</sup>.**

Register online at: [www.franklincountywastedistrict.org](http://www.franklincountywastedistrict.org)

**There will be no cost to Phillipston residents, but space is limited.**

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**LADIES BENEVOLENT SOCIETY**

**All Meetings of the Ladies Benevolent Society**, during this COVID-19 pandemic, have been cancelled until further notice. Please take notice of all instructions to keep you safe so that we may be able to get together again soon and celebrate! God Bless You and Stay Safe!

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**TRANSFER STATION UPDATE**

Effective July 1, 2020 all Trash **MUST** be in Town Bags. Bags are available at the transfer station. \$20.00 for a roll of 10 bags. Please have your check made out before coming, Payable to Town of Phillipston.

Recycling is also open, Please recycle what you can. Thank you.

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The Conservation Commission would like to start a new initiative in Town against invasive plants, and we are asking you the residents to help us. Please read the information we are sending with the newsletter about one of the worst of these exotic plants Japanese Knotweed. It is very easy to recognize right now because it is beginning to bloom with arching white flowers. It spreads along the roadways and we have already enlisted the highway department to cut and spray as necessary. It is very hard to eradicate.

So what can you do to help? If you find you have this weed on your land, you can pull or cut, ideally at the same time that you notice the highway has been active. It may take several cuttings to eliminate this pesty plant. It regrows from the smallest roots left in the ground and spreads its seeds along the highway.

Most of the areas of growth seen in our town are not too large. Other towns have the highway borders covered with hedgerows of knotweed that spread for thousands of feet, completely crowding out the possibility of other more desirable and beautiful plants. Eliminating the plants when they are small and just getting started is much easier. Also we might be able to keep knotweed from moving from the highway margins into the wetlands. For more information on invasive plants we have left an information booklet at the library and Town Hall.



**HERB**  
**STATUS: INVASIVE**

**Japanese Knotweed;  
Mexican Bamboo;  
Japanese Fleece Flower**

*Polygonum cuspidatum*

Synonyms: *Fallopia japonica*,  
*Reynoutria japonica*

**Family:** Smartweed (Polygonaceae)

**Regulated:** Importation and propagation/sale prohibited (January 1, 2006)

**Identification:** An upright perennial herb with multiple, dense shoots that can grow up to 3 m (10') in height. Like a bamboo, stems are stout, round and hollow, with swollen joints at leaf nodes. Shoots grow from stout subterranean rhizomes that may spread horizontally as far as 20 m (65'). Broad leaves, measuring up to 18 cm long and 10 cm wide, have truncate bases, abruptly acute tips, and veins below are roughened with minute, swollen knobs. White or greenish-white flowers appear August-September in numerous branched clusters. Fruits are small, shiny, black triangular seed-like achenes enclosed by papery thin and angled flower remnants (sepals).

**Habitat:** Japanese Knotweed grows in full sun to full shade, but is hardier in full sun environments. It is tolerant of drought, high temperatures and high salinity levels, and intolerant of frost. Often found near water sources, this plant may be observed in wetlands and other riparian areas. It commonly grows along streams, riverbanks, and in disturbed areas, roadsides and waste places.

**Threat:** It spreads vegetatively and by seed, forming dense thickets that threaten native plant communities in wetlands and riparian areas. It has the ability to survive severe flooding and readily colonizes island habitats and shorelines. Once established, its populations are highly persistent and difficult to eradicate.



**Distribution:** It occurs in all regions of Massachusetts and throughout New England. **Origin:** East Asia.

**Similar Species:** Giant Knotweed (*Polygonum sachalinense*) is a similar non-native weed that resembles Japanese Knotweed. Giant Knotweed leaves are considerably larger, up to 36 cm long, and the mid-stem leaves have deeply cordate bases and under-surface veins with multicellular hairs (seen with a handlens). Hybrids between Japanese and Giant knotweed (*P. x bohemicum*) and backcrosses also exist; they typically have slightly cordate leaves ranging from 20-36 cm long.



Photos by Paul Somers, NHESP

**Bulky Waste Day**  
Phillipston Transfer Station  
Templeton Road Phillipston

**Date: Wednesday Sept. 23, 2020  
and Saturday Sept 26, 2020**

**PLEASE NOTE: Prices may have changed.**  
**You may not drop off items on any other day.**

**AND**

**You must have a Transfer Station Sticker on your vehicle to gain access to the  
Transfer Station!**

**Acceptable Bulky Waste:**

<b>Stuffed Chairs</b>	<b>\$20</b>	<b>Sleeper Couches</b>	<b>\$40</b>
<b>Couches</b>	<b>\$30</b>	<b>Sleeper Love Seat</b>	<b>\$30</b>
<b>Love Seats</b>	<b>\$20</b>	<b>Tables</b>	<b>\$20</b>
<b>Recliners</b>	<b>\$20</b>	<b>Desks: Small \$15 / Large</b>	<b>\$30</b>
<b>Twin Mattress</b>	<b>\$10</b>	<b>Twin Box Spring</b>	<b>\$10</b>
<b>Full Mattress</b>	<b>\$15</b>	<b>Full Box Spring</b>	<b>\$15</b>
<b>Queen Mattress</b>	<b>\$20</b>	<b>Queen Box Spring</b>	<b>\$20</b>
<b>King Mattress</b>	<b>\$25</b>	<b>King Box Spring</b>	<b>\$25</b>
<b>Sectional Sofas</b>	<b>\$20 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Section, additional pieces</b>	<b>\$20 each</b>
<b>Carpet 10 x 10</b>	<b>\$50</b>		

**First come, first served until unit is full!**

**Payment Accepted: CHECKS ONLY**

**Absolutely NO Construction/Demo Waste**

Please contact the Board of Health Office at 978-249-1735 with any questions. Office hours are Wednesday from 3:00pm – 5:00pm.

**Voting location is the Upstairs Assembly Room at the Town Hall  
50 The Common, Phillipston, MA 01331**

## **November 3, 2020 State/Presidential Election**

- 10/14/2020 Last Day to Register to Vote/Make Changes to Voter Registration
- 11/2/2020 Last Day to Apply for Absentee Ballot must be done by 12:00 pm
- **10/19/2020 - 10/30/2020 Early Voting (in person) see below:**
- Saturday October 17<sup>th</sup> 10am-12pm, Sunday October 18<sup>th</sup> 10am-12pm
- Monday 19<sup>th</sup> 8am-4pm, Tuesday October 20<sup>th</sup> 8am-4pm,
- Wednesday October 21<sup>st</sup> 8am-4pm, Thursday October 22<sup>th</sup> 8am-4pm
- Saturday October 24<sup>th</sup> 10am-12pm, Sunday October 25<sup>th</sup> 10am-12pm
- **October 28<sup>th</sup> last day to request ballot by mail**

