

## Stream Team Volunteer Description

### Overview:

- IRWA, in conjunction with the Massachusetts Riverways [Adopt-A-Stream Program](#) (AAS) sponsors several “Stream Teams” comprised of citizen volunteers who advocate for their local segment of the Ipswich River watershed. These volunteers are among the most committed and knowledgeable in the watershed, and have undertaken many projects to protect the Ipswich River and educate their communities about the issues facing the river. Stream Teams regions include: Headwaters (Burlington and Wilmington), Reading / North Reading, Middleton, Topsfield/Boxford, Ipswich and Miles River (Hamilton and Wenham).

### Purpose:

- Advocate for responsible stewardship of water resources for a particular section of the watershed.
- Promote awareness and stewardship of the river.
- Develop projects and activities to engage the public in issues related to the river.

### Responsibilities and Duties:

- Form a team with assistance from IRWA and AAS.
- Document problems and identify priorities through an annual action plan of potential projects.
- Prepare a plan for a project the team decides to address.
- Implement a plan by successfully carrying out at least one project or event per year.
- Develop an organizational structure to conduct meetings, delegate responsibilities and maintain communication among the group.

### Qualifications:

- An interest in environmental and water resource issues and activities is desirable, but no prior experience is required.

### Commitment:

- Stream Team members are asked to make at least a 1-year commitment to their team.

### Project ideas or events can include, but are not limited to:

- Develop a monitoring program for streams, lakes or stormwater.
- Invasive species monitoring and removal
- Stream name signs at road crossings
- Watershed related articles for newspapers/websites
- Hikes or canoe trips with a historical or natural history theme
- River cleanups
- Participate in local conservation commission issues that affect the river
- Vernal pool identification
- Demonstration rain gardens

### Contact:

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**For more information, visit:** [http://www.ipswichriver.org/our-work/stream-teams/  
AAS Stream Team Process Flow Chart](http://www.ipswichriver.org/our-work/stream-teams/AAS-Stream-Team-Process-Flow-Chart)