

From: [Flint, Patricia](mailto:Flint.Patricia)
To: execsec@chilmarkma.gov
Cc: asstexecsec@chilmarkma.gov
Subject: Request Permission to Host BioBlitz at Menemsha Beach on 7/30
Date: Tuesday, April 26, 2016 3:08:13 PM
Attachments: [BioBlitz.Menemsha.Request.docx](#)

Dear Mr. Carroll,

I am writing to request permission from the Town of Chilmark for a special community outreach event that the Northeastern University Marine Science Center would like to host on Menemsha Beach on Saturday, July 30th. This event is part of a series of events the University is hosting on MV that weekend (more details below). Although it is a fun event for those who participate, we do not expect crowds to attend!

On Saturday, July 30th, The Ocean Genome Legacy (OGL) of the Northeastern University's Marine Science Center would like to host a beach Bioblitz for the community members at Menemsha Beach from 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM to coincide with low tide. A Bioblitz is a scientific "scavenger hunt" for biodiversity in which citizen scientists explore the species of their local ecosystem. At this event, community members and our scientists will document all the marine species that they can find on the beach. Participants will identify specimens using field guides, compare observations, and record their findings on datasheets and posters. The Bioblitz activities will give participants hands-on science experience, and will support educational themes including biodiversity, organism structure and function, animal adaptations, and effects of human activities on ecosystems. The biodiversity data can also help scientists and the public to monitor marine biodiversity on Martha's Vineyard over time. This knowledge can be helpful in identifying and tracking invasive species, detecting changes in the coastal ecosystem, and protecting marine life. A more detailed description is attached for your review. It is a fun event for adults and families!

I am writing to you today as we would like to notify our alumni who have homes on MV about our plans. Before I send out anything to anyone, I wanted to obtain clearance from the Board of Selectman to proceed. We hosted a BioBlitz in Nahant last fall and just hosted one in Chatham several weeks ago. Both were very successful and the community loved it!

Please feel free to contact me directly with any questions. My direct line is 617-373-7356.

Thank you,
Patty Flint

The other Northeastern University events taking place that weekend include:

Saturday, July 30th
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM
"Design your own kite" at Oak Bluffs hosted by our College of Arts, Media & Design

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
"BioBlitz at Menemsha Beach" hosted by the Marine Science Center

5:00 PM

New Approaches to Combat Lyme Disease, Lecture by Professor Kim Lewis
West Tisbury Library

Sunday, July 31

5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Northeastern MV Alumni Reception
The Barn, Oak Bluffs

There are two small invitation-only events being hosted by our alumni in their homes over that weekend. One of these is on Friday evening in Aquinnah.

The other is at Farm Neck on Saturday evening.