



PUBLIC NOTICE

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Office: USACE New England District

Navigation, Coastal & Environmental Planning Section

Date: April 16, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE USACE CONNECTICUT RIVER HYDRILLA RESEARCH AND DEMONSTRATION PROJECT PUBLIC STAKEHOLDER MEETING LONGMEADOW, MA

Interested parties and stakeholders are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), New England District, in partnership with the Massachusetts Department of Conservation & Recreation (MA DCR) Lower Connecticut (CT) River Valley Council of Governments (RiverCOG) & the CT Agricultural Experiment Station Office of Aquatic Invasive Species (CAES-OAIS), is conducting a research and demonstration project to better understand and control the invasive aquatic plant hydrilla (*hydrilla verticillata*) currently spreading throughout the lower Connecticut River and its tributaries. A public stakeholder meeting will be held to notify interested parties and stakeholders about the USACE demonstration project, and to give more details about the research that is being conducted. One of the goals of the demonstration project is to assist the local communities in their planning and control efforts, to reduce current populations of hydrilla, and to contain further spread outside of its current known locations. As part of the demonstration project, a water exchange study is tentatively scheduled to occur, in the Connecticut River, between the towns of Longmeadow and Agawam, MA, in June of 2025.

Meeting & Presentation Details: This meeting is the first in-person community meeting hosted by USACE concerning hydrilla in the state of Massachusetts. The meeting will be presented with an online/hybrid option to allow for attendees to hear more about the USACE project and the concerning impacts associated with hydrilla in the Connecticut River basin. The meeting/presentation will conclude with a question-and-answer period that ends by 9pm.

Meeting Details: April 28, 2025

Start time: **7 p.m.**, followed by a question & answer period

Where (in-person):

Select Board meeting room #A15

Longmeadow High School (enter via Bliss Road entrance)

535 Bliss Road, Longmeadow MA 01106

Please respond if you plan to attend in-person to: CTRiver-Hydrilla@usace.army.mil

Virtual Link to Meeting:

<https://usace1.webex.com/join/cenae-pa>

Meeting Number:

199 945 8471
Join by phone:

1-844-800-2712 US Toll Free
1-669-234-1177 US Toll
Access code: 199 945 8471

Join by video system, dial:

cenae-pa@usace1.webex.com
You can also dial 207.182.190.20 and enter your meeting number.

More details about hydrilla and the USACE demonstration project can be found at the USACE website:

<https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/missions/projects-topics/massachusetts-connecticut-river-hydrilla-project/>



(project website QR code)

And project ArcGIS StoryMap:

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/ac89d2534fa0490db6c8718191411bd1>



(project StoryMap QR code)