



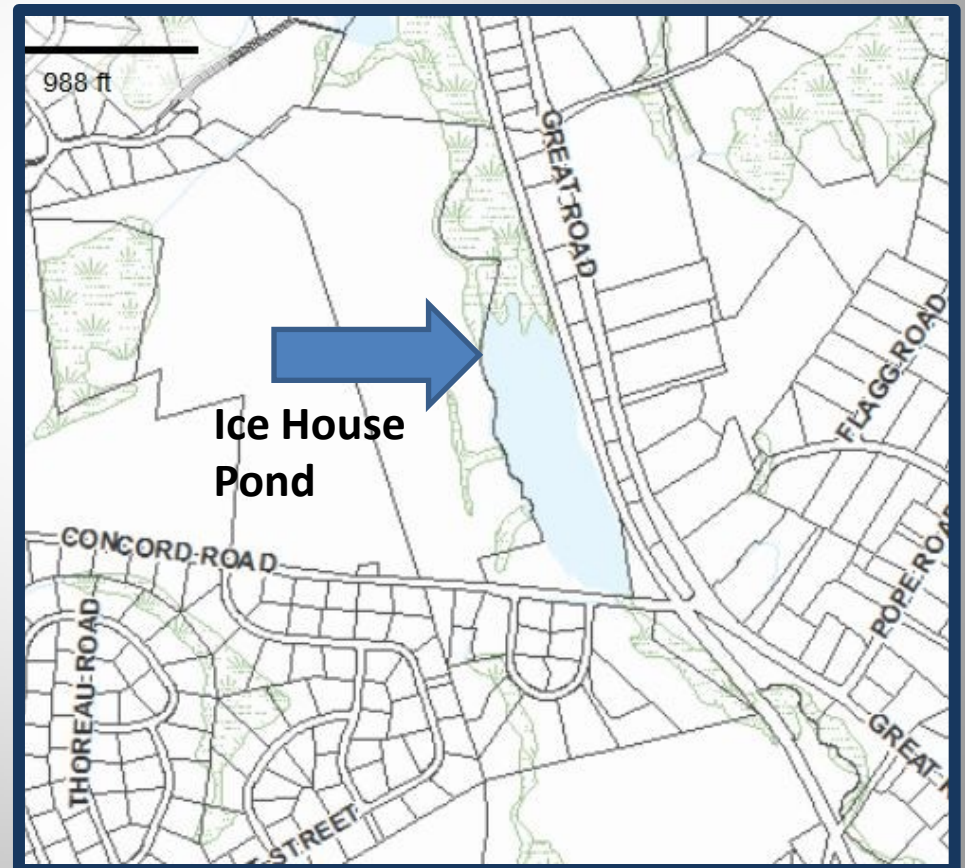
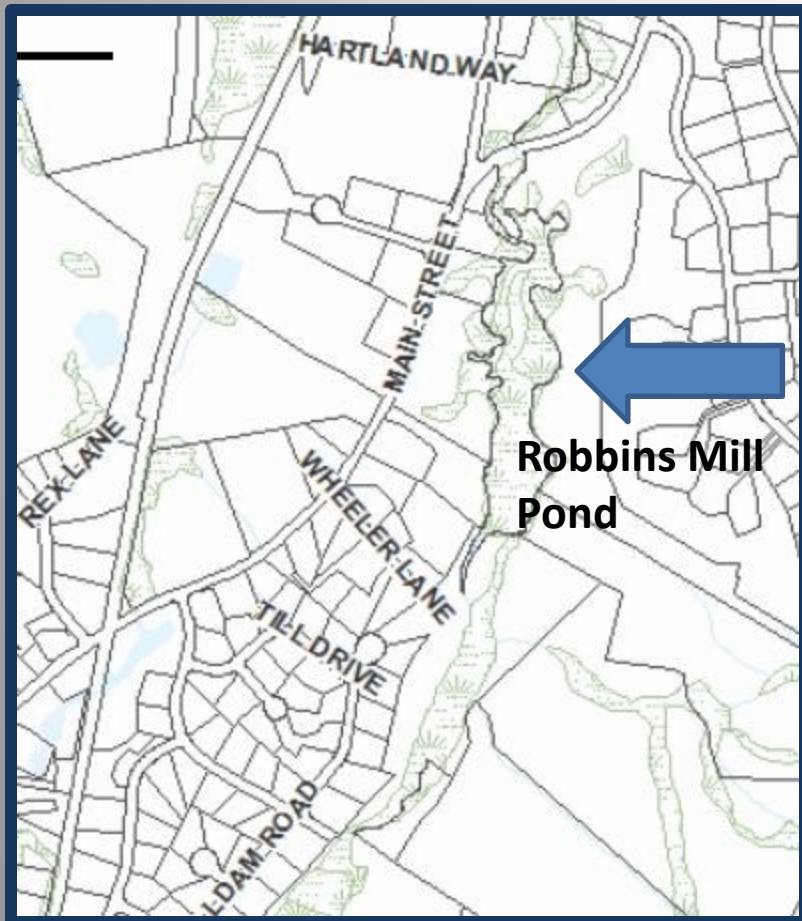
**3 years of
Hand-pulling Water Chestnuts
(*Trapa natans*)
from 2 Ponds in Acton
2011-2013**

**TOWN OF ACTON
Natural Resources Dept.
472 Main Street
Acton, Massachusetts, 01720**

Trapa natans can be very daunting...



Ice House Pond and Robbins Mill Pond Are 2 Impounded Portions of Nashoba Brook in Acton



Ice House Pond has a long history of *Trapa natans* infestation

In 1995 IHP was completely overgrown. Permits were granted to drain and dredge; 25,000 cubic yards of muck were removed and transported for composting.



to



2011 Ice House Pond Clean-up

- 16 years after dredging
- 3 volunteer sessions in August
- 17 volunteers, 9 hours total

before



after



Ice House Pond

Getting Started in 2011

Just a handful of volunteers with laundry baskets!



Tools of the trade



Day 1 yield



Day 2 Yield



Human Perspective on Size of Pile



2 weeks later, dehydrated and condensed.

2012 Ice House Pond Second Year of Volunteer efforts

- 3 volunteer sessions
- 10 total hours
- 75 total volunteers



Ice House Pond 2012

Never underestimate the power of
community service!



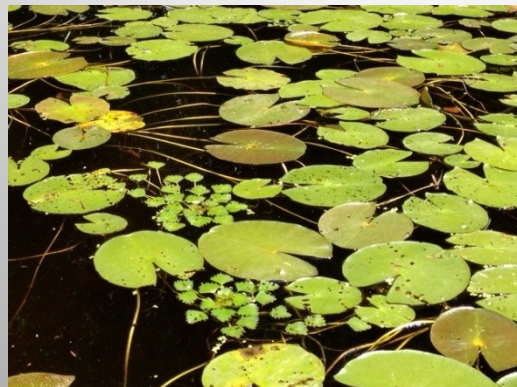
July 2012
25 adults, 50 boats
4 hours

June 2012
11 High School Kids
3 hours

Eastern Mountain Sports
Acton, Employee Community
Service Day
Sept. 2012

Ice House Pond – (third year)

June, 2013



2013 Robbins Mill Pond Clean-up Begins



Robbins Mill Pond

July 2013



Robbins Mill Pond

July, 2013

Before



After



4 hours, 30 volunteers, 25 boats

Ongoing efforts *can* curtail *Trapa natans*.



Keeping the water open is worth it.
What other creative ways can we think of ?

Big effort = big change

- Present this Power point to *YOUR*:
- local high school
- Places of worship
- Senior center
- Enviro club
- Neighborhood
- Town meeting

Thank you!

