



Autumn 2025

SWIMNEWS

Volume 14 Issue 1

Dear Nahanter,

We invite you to explore our annual newsletter which is a summary of what we have been doing for the past year, not only in Nahant, but also in our region. Your concerns about our environment, your encouragement and your help are what make it possible for SWIM to continue strengthening our environmental resilience.

We welcome your messages – send them along to nahantswiminc@gmail.com

Thank you.

Vi Patek, President

Examine the Enclosed Flyer About Invasive Plants

Invasive plants are everywhere in Nahant. This flyer targets Nahant's most common ones and explains ways to control them. Be sure to click on the QR code to access Mass Audubon's very comprehensive "*Invasive Plant Guide*" or go to: massaudubon.org/nature-wildlife/invasive-plants-in-Massachusetts

SWIM Adding By-law re SGARS to 2026 Town Meeting Warrant

Certain rodenticides, SGARS (Second-Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides), cause internal bleeding and a very slow and painful death making rodents easy prey to pets, owls, eagles, hawks, and other wildlife. Even worse, a small child could get hold of some of the poison. To eliminate rodents, eliminate their access to trash and food scraps. Bags of trash on the sidewalk and open trash barrels invite rodents and coyotes to dinner. Be sure your barrel is rat-proof and covered. We invite you to vote YES to our by-law at Town Meeting on May 16, 2026 to ban SGARS. SWIM supports State legislation (H965/S644) to restrict SGARS and strengthen environmental protections across Mass.

One Year of Free Composting Service for Nahant Residents

Go to <https://nahant.org/compost/> to see the Town's description of the program. Nahant has allocated funds for a free composting program called *Island Gold*, and SWIM donated funds to provide free stainless-steel countertop bins to those who enroll. Take advantage of this FREE one year program with a FREE countertop bin! At least 30% off all trash is compostable. Our trash fees are based on the weight of the trash taken from Nahant so composting saves all residents money! Compostable trash is very wet and heavy (think leftovers, vegetable parings, bones, banana peels, etc.).

Educational Sign About Eelgrass Coming to Marjoram Park

Soon you will see a beautiful sign at Marjoram Park describing eelgrass and its critical importance to our environment. The sign will also illustrate and relate the history of our wharf and harbor. SWIM is paying for the sign which will be the same style and quality as the ones up on East Point. We are delighted that this project is the result of collaboration with the Nahant Open Space Committee which created the beautiful and informative signs on East Point.

Techno Trash Cans at our Library – Take Advantage!

SWIM has donated Technotrash Bins to our Library for public use. These are collection boxes for CDs, diskettes, DVDs, ink cartridges, cell phones, videotapes, pagers, PDAs, and all small techno trash. This is yet another way you can protect our environment from destructive trash. Please remove all cases to increase space in the bins – for example, CD plastic cases. The bins are in the main entry area.

SWIM Keeps Nahant's Beaches Clean

Many thanks go to our diligent Beachkeepers who clean our beaches. Our May 4 Spring Cleanup was our twelfth! On September 28 we had our ninth annual Autumn Beaches Cleanup Day synchronized with the Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Cleanup program. Our beaches are beautiful – thank you to everyone who bends down and picks up trash! The Girl Scouts' yellow trash baskets on our beaches are very popular since you can take one with you to your picnic, put the trash in it and then dump it in the town trash barrel as you leave – then put the basket in the rack. If you find anything unusual, please email us at nahantswiminc@gmail.com We keep an archive of items found on our beaches.

More Actions by SWIM: monitoring the Boston Sewage Treatment Outfall – have a look at www.mwra.com

SWIM's President regularly attends the Outfall Monitoring Science Advisory Panel (OMSAP) meetings whose purpose is to advise the EPA and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MADEP) on scientific and technical matters related to the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority's Boston outfall and any potential impacts of the discharge on its receiving waters. Our President is also a member of the watchdog committee called Public Interest Advisory Committee (PIAC) which monitors OMSAP.

We believe that collaboration is vital to our mission to protect our environment, and we are grateful for our partnerships with our Town Administrator, Select Board, Open Space Committee, Library, Garden Club and Historical Society.

SWIM's Ongoing Initiatives Include: education of the public, participation in regional environmental seminars, standing up for the environment, acting as a first responder to threats to our beautiful environment here in Nahant, and serving as a resource for the public about environmental concerns. For more information, check out our website: www.nahantswim.org
Because of your support, SWIM can continue its important work protecting our beautiful beaches, open spaces and clear waters. We are proud of our growth as an effective local environmental organization and very much appreciate your commitment to our efforts.

Please consider making a gift to SWIM by using the form below and the enclosed blue envelope, or by donating online (see instructions below).

Nahant S.W.I.M. Inc. is a **nonprofit, tax-exempt charitable organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.** Donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

Note: for copies of this newsletter go to www.nahantswim.org and click "Resources" and "Archive".
Thank you very much.

Vi Patek, President

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To donate by credit card, go to our website www.nahantswim.org and click on the **golden rectangle**: "DONATE NOW"

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