

Volunteer Spotlight

Designing a Backyard for People and Wildlife

Robbi Woodburn, the principal landscape architectural designer at Woodburn & Company of Newmarket, N.H., volunteered her creative vision to help design a community wildlife garden that recently opened on the shores of Great Bay. The garden is a project initiated by the Great Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, operated by New Hampshire Fish and Game in partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Located along Route 108 on the Newfields/Stratham town line, the garden showcases ideas to create a low maintenance and beautiful backyard that also provides shelter, food and water for wildlife. Woodburn worked with University of New Hampshire Professor Emeritus John Hart and his landscape design students to create the plan for this garden. She asked Doucet Survey of Newmarket, N.H., to donate their services to delineate wetlands



COURTESY PHOTO

Robbi Woodburn, landscape designer.

on the property. She coordinated Timberland's kickoff volunteer event that began the creation of the garden in 2012, and also pitched in on garden work days.

In addition to helping N.H. Fish and Game, Woodburn shares her volunteer spirit throughout the seacoast. Her many projects include helping to install a rain garden at Oyster River High School and serving on the Durham Town Zoning Board.

"We are delighted to have had the opportunity to collaborate with Robbi on the Community Wildlife Garden," said Rachel Stevens, Stewardship Coordinator and Wildlife Ecologist with N.H. Fish and Game, "She is very talented and regularly incorporates ecologically sensitive elements into her designs. We hope many people will visit and enjoy the garden she has helped create."

Learn more about the habitat garden and other opportunities to volunteer at the Reserve at <http://greatbay.org/volunteer>.

