



Town of Lexington

Land Use Housing and Development Conservation Office

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May 12, 2025

To The Massachusetts Envirothon Steering Committee,

This is a letter of support to acknowledge the outstanding contributions made by the Lexington High School Envirothon Team to conservation ecological restoration efforts in the town of Lexington, MA during the 2024-25 academic year. I worked with team members on two occasions this year; October 6, 2024 and May 4, 2025.

On October 6, the team helped to manage invasive woody Buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*) by clearing it from either side of a public trail in accordance with a multi-year conservation ecological restoration project, using saws, loppers, and weed wrenches. The team worked diligently for 3 hours and successfully removed a significant amount of this aggressive woody invasive species; making great strides towards our conservation efforts.

On May 4 this year, team members supported the conservation native plant hoop house nursery through the potting of over 80 newly acquired bare root saplings and repotting over 100 perennial seedlings, all to be used in ecological restoration efforts in town.

As in years past, the Envirothon team was a pleasure to work with, always in good spirits, readily taking direction and taking initiative when needed, and a valuable contributor to the town's ecological restoration efforts. I am always impressed by their enthusiasm, focus and tenacity, and am hoping our partnership will continue for years to come.

Your respectfully,

Holly Samuels

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