



TOWN OF WELLS PIPING PLOVER PROJECT CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

For more than a decade, the Town of Wells has had a Beach Management Agreement with the Federal, State and Audubon Agencies who are charged with protecting habitat for Piping Plovers and Least Terns.

These birds begin to arrive on our beaches in April and their nesting and fledging seasons extends into the summer months. While most often found at Wells Beach, the beaches at Drakes Island and Moody must also be checked. In the beginning, there was a threat of beach closure to ensure the safety of these species. Instead, Town officials proposed a monitoring program which would keep the beaches open for use while protecting the birds through oversight and education of beach-goers. This program has been very successful. From the outset, no birds have been lost due to human activity.

This program is about educating people through conversation rather than enforcement; and help locate the Plover's nests so that they can be protected by fencing. However, to help maintain this success, volunteers are needed to perform the following tasks: walk the beaches on a regular basis - at least once a week from the middle of April through mid-September; identify, locate and count the birds; and help educate and make beach goers aware of the birds and how to protect them.

WHAT IS NECESSARY TO VOLUNTEER? If you enjoy walking the beaches; appreciate flexible days/hours/time of day; and want to make a difference –**VOLUNTEERING FOR THE PIPING PLOVER PROJECT IS FOR YOU!** Volunteers will be provided with a training program; name identification; and parking passes for the beaches. Reporting is a simple and rewarding process! Volunteers are needed from mid-April through September. Town of Wells Volunteer Force Application is necessary to get started!



For more information about the Piping Plover Project, please contact the Town Manager's Office (646-5113) or visit www.wellstown.org under Volunteers FMI.