



NJ Invasive Species  
Strike Team

**FoHVOs**  
FRIENDS OF HOPEWELL VALLEY OPEN SPACE

# Strike Team Report April 2019

## Annual Conference Strikes Success!



Thank you to those who were able to attend the annual Strike Team Conference. We would like to report that it was indeed a success, we had expert speakers that informed and inspired attendees with successful restoration projects. Our official press release can be accessed via the button below as well.

We look forward to hosting our first Community Conference on **Sunday, June 2nd, 2019** at Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge! This event is open to all friends and family seeking to learn about invasives.

**To register, please see link below.**



Duke Farms



AMY S. GREENE  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
CONSULTANTS.

**BASH**  
CONTRACTING



Gracie & Harrigan  
Consulting Foresters, Inc.



SOLITUDE  
LAKE MANAGEMENT

Blostar Associates, Inc.  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

March 27th Press Release

June 2nd Community Conference  
Registration

## Live and Learn!

The goal of this 'Live and Learn!' feature is to spread newly obtained knowledge provided from Strike Team partners. Please share your expertise! Send news of successes or lessons learned, either big or small, to Mike at [mvanclef@fohvos.org](mailto:mvanclef@fohvos.org).

The months installment comes from Gemma Milly and the uses of the Kill Stick.

### The "Kill Stick"

We heard about the "kill stick" from our friends at [Duke Farms](http://Duke Farms), blue-



printed in this [Nature Conservancy publication](#). It's a small-volume, low-cost, and efficient piece of herbicide application equipment built with PVC and a sponge. Instead of spraying, she or he who wields the kill stick dabs small-diameter cut-stumps (think hundreds of tiny wineberry or barberry stems—lots of waste with a sprayer) or paints small, smooth-barked trees as a basal bark application (think an old field of callery pear trees). We did a little tinkering with the design after making a couple trips to the hardware store and watching this [video by Pheasants Forever](#) and are happy with our improvements. At FoHVOS, we're excited to try the kill sticks for super-targeted application to invasive shrubs and vines occurring in close proximity to rare plants. It will allow us to treat more of our targets and waste less herbicide. Pictured above, FoHVOS Senior Land Steward, Beth Craighead, makes a kill stick basal bark application to an invasive Kousa Dogwood.



*Interchangeable heads work for basal bark and cut stump applications.*



**Duke Farms**



*Bush honeysuckle threatens rare Green Violet habitat.*

**The Nature Conservancy** 

**The Strike Team needs your help to fight invasive species throughout New Jersey. By making a membership donation, you directly fund our efforts to keep invasive species at bay and protect our native plants and wildlife. Donate through the link below!**

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*New Jersey Conservation Foundation*

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*New Jersey Highlands Council*

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*New Jersey Water Supply Authority*

**Dr. Michael Van Clef**

*Friends of Hopewell Valley Open Space*

**Lisa Wolff**

*Friends of Hopewell Valley Open Space*

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*New Jersey Division of Fish & Wildlife*

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**Brian Kubin**, *Land Steward*

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