

## Lou Mansolillo

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**From:** Dennis Webster <dennishwebster@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 22, 2026 12:57 PM  
**To:** House Environment and Natural Resources Committee  
**Subject:** RI Invasive Plant Management Act, H7071

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I urge you to pass and send to the full House **The Rhode Island Invasive Plant Management Act**, House Bill 7071.

I volunteer two Saturdays a month with the Taylor Point Restoration Association in Jamestown removing invasive plants from the 20-acre Town-owned shoreline parcel next to the Newport Bridge approach ramp at the former toll plaza. We've been at it for 11 years and still have a long way to go. Some 40% of the vegetation on this site is on the RI Invasive Plant Species List, meaning 40% of this 20 acres is not providing the ecosystem services that it could if it were all native plants. If the site were left alone, the invasive species would eventually outcompete and replace all the existing natives. This bill will help prevent future invasive species from coming to Rhode Island. It's long overdue - how much healthier Taylor Point would be if this bill had been enacted fifty years ago!

It's time that Rhode Island joined 45 other states - and the rest of New England - in restricting the introduction of new invasive plants.

Thanks to the sponsors for their efforts. Please pass it.

Dennis Webster  
Taylor Point Restoration Association  
Jamestown