



## AmeriCorps Cape Cod

P.O. Box 427

Barnstable, MA 02630

Phone: (508) 375-6869

Fax: (508) 375-6887

Website: [www.americorpscapedod.org](http://www.americorpscapedod.org)

Email: [AmeriCorps@barnstablecounty.org](mailto:AmeriCorps@barnstablecounty.org)

## Memorandum

TO: All AmeriCorps Cape Cod Service Partners

FROM: Andrew Platt, Interim Program Coordinator

DATE: December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018

RE: Poison Ivy ("PI")

It's not uncommon for our members to come across poison ivy (PI) while serving here on Cape Cod- it's often unavoidable in the field given how abundant it is. Recently, however, multiple members have had very bad reactions to the point of requiring medical intervention.

We conduct a PI training during September and spend a lot to provide the members with both pre-contact and post-contact wipes and ointments, but to help us mitigate this health concern for the members I would like to ask our Service Partners to assist us in the following ways:

1. If you know of patches of PI on a proposed service site, brief the members on these locations and make every effort to steer your project away from these areas.
2. If a project site is known to contain PI, provide time at the start of the project for our members to use pre-contact wipes on bare skin.
3. If a site is completely permeated by PI, consider other means of completing the project. AmeriCorps will not be used for direct removal of poison ivy.

If a proposed project puts our members at too great a risk for exposure, we reserve the right to request the project be modified to avoid the contaminated area or refuse the project. If a member feels a given task puts them at too great a risk for exposure, he/she has the right to refuse the assignment at any point.

Together, we can ensure the AmeriCorps members are provided with a safe service environment.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Platt'.

Andrew Platt  
Interim Program Coordinator  
508-375-6872