

Proud to be patriotic!

Project Manager **Kevin Dahl** (right) was recently recognized as a patriotic employer by the Office of the Secretary of Defense. Dahl was nominated by Mechanic **Tom Sederback**, pictured here, who serves in the U.S. Navy Reserves.

A patriotic employer is one that contributes to national security and protects liberty and freedom by supporting employee participation in America's National Guard and Reserve Force.

Woonsocket selected CH2M HILL to operate its regional wastewater treatment facility in 2012. CH2M HILL also is designing and building upgrades to the facility and will then operate the improved wastewater treatment facility once construction is complete in 2013.



It's an all-out war on knotweeds

The wastewater team and their family members recently declared war on the noxious knotweed plant invading the Blackstone River.

Volunteers spent the day digging and removing knotweed, a non-native, invasive Japanese plant that endangers the native species of the river. The knotweed, which looks similar to bamboo, inhabits bare land rapidly and can grow almost 10 feet tall.

The work was strenuous and tedious, but the excitement came when a volunteer spotted new growth emerging from under the brush and the team removed the pesky plant.

CH2M HILL partnered with RiverzEdge Arts Project in mid-April for its first community service project and plans to continue the partnership. Wastewater employees will continue to be involved in projects that directly affect the Blackstone River and promote environmental education and awareness. They also plan to participate in the first annual Riverfest in July.



In a letter from Riverzedge Arts Executive Director, Rebekah Greenwald Speck, thanked the team for contributing their time, energy, expertise, and supplies. She went on to say, “Projects like these would not be possible without supporters like you!”

After volunteering, employees returned to work on Monday to find knotweed growing just outside the perimeter of the wastewater treatment facility. They plan to keep the area knotweed-free and maintain the grounds surrounding the facility with the help of their recently purchased Pulaski grub hoe – the tool of choice to remove the plants.

CH2M HILL currently operates the existing 16 million gallons per day regional wastewater treatment facility. Design is currently underway on facility upgrades, with construction scheduled for completion in 2016. Once construction is complete, CH2M HILL will operate the improved wastewater treatment facility.