

Data collection, reporting and recording—information for taxon leaders
The 300 Committee BioBlitz, Falmouth, June 26-27, 2010

1. The BioBlitz will rely on the taxon leaders for identification of organisms. Collect specimens or photos as appropriate for your purposes (or for the Encyclopedia of Life--see below). You may run your team in whatever manner works for you, delegating times or areas, or whatever, to parts of the group, but be sure to sign each data sheet, as we rely on you to verify your team's identifications.
2. Please enter common and scientific names in the data sheets if known. Otherwise enter whichever is appropriate or known; we recognize species may not have common names.
3. Use a place holder for any organism which can't be given a specific name immediately. Use whatever identifier works for you such as: "unknown beetle #3" or "ant with pink antennae" or "algal specimen 37", but please include a taxon name so we don't end up with lots of "unknown #2"s which would be difficult to deal with. Please complete any off-site identifications by the end of July. We recognize that some species may not ultimately be identified, but give us what you have.
4. Location is optional in the data sheets. If you find something interesting or unusual, or that you might wish to return to, we encourage recording a location. You can use lat/long, if you are using a GPS, or a mark on a map and some flagging in the field (we'll have flagging tape available), or you can describe the location. The BioBlitz area is divided by roads into north, south, and eastern parcels, which may be helpful in identifying locations.
5. We will have a display based on ecosystem and trophic level of species that will be added to during the BioBlitz to emphasize ecosystem values to the public, so please circle the appropriate ecosystem and trophic level of the organism on the data sheet when possible.
6. Each data sheet will be copied when it is turned in for data entry; the originals will be returned to you.
7. Folks from the Encyclopedia of Life (EoL) will be working on site to put our data into first the Cape Cod Life Desk, and eventually into the EoL. While they are happy to have the names of species, they like them even better with photographs. We expect there will be dedicated "photo center" where photos, whether from the field or the microscope, can be easily downloaded; we may even be able to have a photo assistant there to help.
8. Expert of the Hour. Thanks to those of you have volunteered. We'll put together a schedule for your review.