



RARE PLANT SURVEY & TRANSPLANTING

Hoosic River
North Adams, MA



Hairy-Fruited sedge is identified by the red stripe found on the ventral side of the leaf.

New England Environmental, Inc. (NEE) was asked to complete a rare plant survey in the flood plain of the Hoosic River, as part of a proposed commercial development on a portion of the site. The species involved, Hairy-Fruited Sedge (*Carex trichocarpa*), is only found in three towns in Massachusetts. NEE conducted an initial survey for this distinct looking sedge, and found large stands to be present on a portion of the site not proposed for development. The species was also found in smaller stands within the area of the proposed development. NEE then performed further surveys to quantify the number of plants present at the site and develop a transplant plan and monitoring plan.

NEE Completed Survey:

- The initial survey identified over 1 million stems of the species on the property.
- NEE filed an ENF and MESA permits related to the proposed work.
- A wetland mitigation and flood compensation area was designed by NEE so that the sedge could be transplanted to an area outside the proposed construction area, but remain on the property.
- NEE prepared and successfully received a Conservation Restriction for this species.
- NEE successfully transplanted over 7,500 stems of Hairy-Fruited sedge to the designed wetland replication area.
- A 5-year monitoring period was established to assure the continued establishment of the rare sedge community.



The rare sedge was transplanted to the wetland mitigation, designed by NEE to support this species.



Hairy-Fruited Sedge spikelets were found blooming after transplanting.



The designed mitigation area was successful in supporting the transplanted sedge and other associated wetland species.

