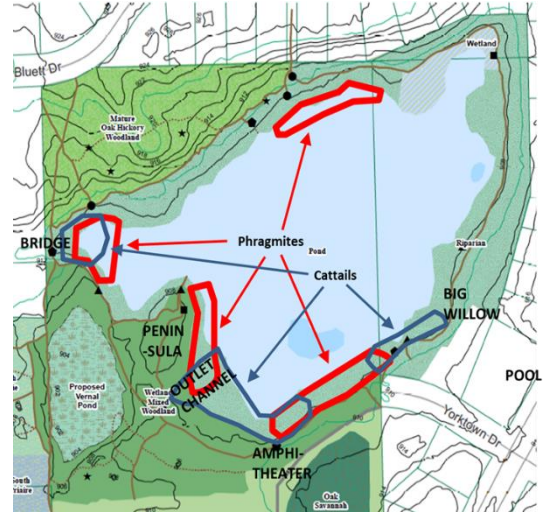


Land Steward Report – November, 2015

The phragmites and non-native (narrow-leaved) cattails were treated a third time by Plantwise on Aug. 31 at a cost of \$100. Treated areas are shown on the map. Treatment was made only to plants that were still green.

We expect to burn the killed plants in November. A fire break is in place from the pool to the tip of the peninsula. Once the pond water level is restored, we hope any remaining cattail material will be underwater, the third stressor (after glyphosate and burning) to help eradicate it.

Boy Scout Troop 1 (led by Eagle-candidate Denis Sorel) returned on Oct. 18 to take up all the plastic on the southern half of the oak savanna. They also put down native short-grass (side-oats grama, little bluestem and prairie brome) and cover crop (winter wheat) seed, and planted shrubs (New Jersey tea and leadplant, both fire tolerant and common in oak savannas). The four American hazelnuts did not get transplanted from the old backstop area – that will be done in the spring. Frank is trying to set up a date before Thanksgiving for a Thurston class to sow flower seeds in the area.



Six ounces of soft-stem bulrush seed (worth \$60) previously collected from around the pond was sowed between the new island and the deep area of the pond, and on the mudflat. It will grow in water up to about a foot.

Additional seed is arriving any day now for the island, outlet area and top of the berm. An 8' tall elderberry and several great blue lobelia were transplanted to the north end of the berm. Additional free seed, to be put at various locations, has been promised to us by several Wild Ones members.

We plan to get some biodegradable erosion blankets to put along the top edge of the sediment basin and outlet channel, to be seeded with water-loving grasses, rushes and sedges.

On the advice of Wildtype, we decided to not transplant any aquatic plants to the slopes of the berm and island this fall, due to ejection of the plugs during freeze-thaw cycles. That will occur next spring.

We will wait until late next year to seed where the cattails and phragmites are being treated, after any additional control that might be needed for those invasives.

More areas within the vernal pond site were cleared, as far as the Conboy trail. Clearing has also been done near the cedars on the NE edge of the peninsula and between the amphitheater and the OHAC pool. A chipper has been in use this week to work on the brush piles.