

Land Steward Report – January - December, 2022

Color key: Black = Work performed in period. Red = Future plans.

Seed sowing locations are covered in a table at the end.

Our Land Stewards are Jim Vallem and Michael Tucker. Our Water Steward is Rachel Oram.

Woodlands between the Pond Outlet and Thurston-Clague Trail Catch Basin: This is the area cleared in 2021 to repair the collapsed drainage line between the two catch basins. It was partially flooded from Fall 2021 to late July 2022. A list of requested shrubs to be added to this area was sent to the school district for planting. However, due to flooding and the likelihood of more work in the area, the planting is on hold.

Prairie and North Prairie: A very large amount of invasive garlic mustard and yellow rocket was pulled prior to them releasing seeds. Removal of more of these will be needed for the next few years. The buckthorn has gotten fairly tall after three growing seasons without a burn, so we will try to burn these areas in Spring 2023.

South Entrance of Conboy Trail: There is substantial rabbit damage to many of the shrubs planted last fall, especially the plums.

Hummingbird Rain Garden: The area was weeded, including removal of non-native yellow iris. The two original pools were burned in November and new seed sowed.

Oak Savanna: Planted one Pin Oak in the northern half. We have not been able to burn the savanna since its establishment, so we will try again in Spring 2023.

OHAC Pond Buffer Strip: Did some weeding and removal of some purple loosestrife. Propose to add Shrubby St. John's Wort to get a better hedge against the geese, as the shrubby cinquefoil shrubs are not doing as well as expected.

Clearing at NE of Pond: A substantial amount of purple loosestrife was removed. This area has had little loosestrife in recent years. There is a long-term plan to replace the bulbs with native plants.

Oak/Hickory Woods: A Pin Oak was planted in an open area above the western rain garden, though it was destroyed by a deer. 38-plug flats of Golden Ragwort, Snakeroot and Sprengell's Sedge were planted by Cub Scouts in the moist areas above the rain gardens. Patches of winter creeper, vinca major and minor, and English ivy near the Antietam entrance were partially removed before the natives emerged. A burn is planned for Spring 2023.

The Hollow (low area west and south of the berm): The southern 2/3 of this area was flooded between Fall 2021 and late July 2022. Many of the trees, shrubs and other plants in the flooded area survived. Lots of buckthorn and honeysuckle are now at mature sizes and are producing seed. We will try to burn this area whenever it is possible to get a good burn, but because of usual dampness, we do not anticipate that this will be any time soon. Absent a burn in spring 2023, we will need to do a cut and daub process on the invasives. Seeding of native grasses whenever we are able to burn off the leaf litter will provide better (drier) fuel for future burns.

Peninsula: Removed a substantial amount of purple loosestrife, along the eastern side of the Peninsula and going east past the outlet. Some glossy buckthorn and European (or black) alder was removed.

Amphitheater: We are getting good native grass growth in the area where the goats were in 2020. Some follow-up was done to kill some of the remaining poison ivy and buckthorn resprouts. Removed some invasive dame's rocket nearby in early June. We removed a lot of buckthorn and honeysuckle along the trail west of the Amphitheater, and had the school district's grounds contractor chip it. Removed some glossy buckthorn, black alder and purple loosestrife between the Amphitheater and the OHAC pond buffer strip. The goat area should be burned in Fall 2023 or the following Spring to kill the remaining buckthorn.

East Side of Pond: A substantial amount of purple loosestrife was removed. This area was far worse than it has been in past years.

Jim Vallem, 1/6/2023

SEEDS SOWED IN 2022

Latin Name	Common Name	Pine Woods Amph to OHAC	Pond Edge - Amphitheater	Pond Edge - Near Goat Area	Pond Edge - NE Clearing	Pond Edge - NE of Bridge	Pond Edge - Peninsula East	Pond Edge - OHAC	Prairie	Savanna (North)	Butterfly RG	North Prairie	Oak/Hickory	Conboy Trail S. Entrance	Outlet Pipe Clearing	Offshore Near Islands
Baptisia australis	Blue Wild Indigo*		x	x				x			x					
Veronicastrum virginicum	Culver's Root*		x	x				x			x					
Helenium autumnale	Sneezeweed*		x	x				x			x					
Lilium michiganense	Michigan Lily* stratifying		x	x				x			x					
Lobelia cardinalis	Cardinal Flower*		x	x				x			x					
Chelone glabra	Turtlehead		x	x				x			x					
Verbena hastata	Blue Vervain*			x				x								
Gentiana andrewsii	Bottle Gentian*							x					x			
Iris virginica var. shrevei	Blue Flag Iris*							x								
Eryngium yuccifolium	Rattlesnake Master*								x	x						
Carex muskingumensis	Palm Sedge*												x			
Sisyrinchium angustifolium	Stout Blue-Eyed Grass*								x							
Anemone virginiana	Tall Thimbleweed*								x							
Symphotrichum novae-angliae	New England Aster*								x							
Zizia aurea	Golden Alexanders*								x							
Tradescantia ohiensis	Ohio Spiderwort*								x							
Bouteloua curtipendula	Side Oats Grama*	x														
Sporobolus heterolepis	Prairie Dropseed*	x														
Liatris spicata	Marsh Blazing Star*										x					
Liatris scariosa	Northern Blazing Star*										x					
Pycnanthemum virginianum	Va. Mtn. Mint										x					
Carex brevior	Plains Oval Sedge	x									x					
Symphotrichum cordifolium	Heart-Leaved Aster*												x			
Solidago caesia	Blue-Stem Goldenrod*												x			
Persicaria amphibia	Marsh Smartweed															x
Hypericum prolificum	Shrubby St. John's Wort*							x						x	x	
Ptelea trifoliata	Hoptree (stratifying)														x	

* Harvested by our stewards

Stratifying = undergoing special pretreatment to break dormancy, will be sowed following this.