
Who Heals Nature With Flowers?

VOLUNTEERS

Just Like You!

SEPT, 12, 2021

Jo Allen, Park Co-Steward

BRANDYMORE CASTLE

GARLIC MUSTARD HILL

- **This lower-level hill had been covered in invasive *Alliaria petiolata* (Garlic Mustard), which is allelopathic, meaning its chemicals thwart growth of other plants.**
 - **Over more than two years, volunteers removed the Garlic Mustard, but nothing grew back. The soil on the hill began to erode.**
 - **On Sept. 3, 2021, five volunteers planted hundreds of seeds of three native woodland plants on the top, slope, and lower ridge of the hill.**
 - **If the seeds germinate, the plants will feed native insects and birds for years to come.**
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- **Red tape means stay off the newly planted hill.**
- **After one week, it has not been disturbed.**

Planted Sept. 3, 2021 on Garlic Mustard Hill

Doellingeria umbellata

Flat-topped Aster

<https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/doellingeria-umbellata/>

Bloom: July-October; Deer may browse leaves



***Eutrochium fistulosum* (prev. *Eupatorium fistulosum*)**

Hollow-stemmed Joe Pye Weed

<https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/eutrochium-fistulosum/>

Bloom: Summer-Fall



Veronicastrum virginicum

Culver's Root

https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_PLANTMATERIALS/publications/mdpmmcfs10400.pdf

Blooms in second year onward: July-September; Slow to establish, blooms in second year (2023)



Photo credits: James L. Reveal, wildflower.org. George H. Bruso

78 VOLUNTEER HOURS



➤ **LDS Sisters Phillips, Lunt, Camaigo, Shuler, Walsh, and Rowley first tackled invasive porcelainberry on July 29.**

- **Community volunteers included a crew from Quetzal Lawn & Landscape, left, on July 31, and 9 civic-minded folks who joined us on Aug. 25 for our *Every Last Weed, Every Last Wednesday* event, right.**
- **After that, only a few bits of English ivy were visible, but porcelainberry roots remained buried.**



➤ **LDS Sisters Cella and Walsh, standing, tugged out porcelainberry roots while Sisters Rowley and Murray pulled the last of the ivy on Sept. 10.**



AN EPIC BATTLE



- **Sister Cella was determined to extract the gnarliest root to prevent porcelainberry from invading the newly planted bed of native Buttonbush, milkweed, blue mist flower, and Little Bluestem.**
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➤ **Success! The Sisters with the extracted porcelainberry root.**



Planted Sept. 10, 2021 behind the Serviceberry grove

Cephalanthus occidentalis

Buttonbush

<https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/cephalanthus-occidentalis/>

Bloom: June-September; Poor flowering in partial shade



Asclepias syriaca

Common milkweed

<https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/asclepias-syriaca/>

Bloom: June-August



Conoclinium coelestinum

Blue Mistflower

<https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/conoclinium-coelestinum/>

Bloom: Late summer-frost; Cut back in spring to prevent flopping



Schizachyrium scoparium

Little Bluestem

<https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/schizachyrium-scoparium/>

Grass: Blue in summer, copper in fall & winter; Cut back in early spring



Photo credits: Debbie Roos, foraygardengirl, Helen Hamilton, Carolyn Gannon

THANK YOU

- **Many thanks to the dozens of volunteers (several worked more than one session) who made these plantings possible: LDS Sisters Rowley, Walsh, Cella, Murray, Shuler, Gordon, Phillips, Lunt, and Camiago; Quetzal crew members Gilmar, Carlos, Luis, Hilario, and Pablo; and Every Last Weed, Every Last Wednesday workers Leslie Cameron, Darrell and Claire Capwell, Brandymore Castle Park Co-Steward Amy Crumpton, Stuart Davis, Susan Matchett, and Josh and Isaac Waldman.**
- **Arlington Natural Resources Specialist Jennifer Soles and Long Branch Nature Center Naturalist Rachel Tolman provided the vintage seeds from seed-cleaning sessions held in 2018 and 2019. While seed germination is not guaranteed, we have faith.**
- **Earth Sangha Conservation Manager Matt Bright provided expert advice on what to plant where.**
- **And you, for watching, caring, learning, and perhaps joining us soon.**

Jo Allen, Brandymore Castle Park Co-Steward
