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.



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/mdpmcfs10400.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.







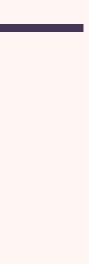
LDS Sisters Cella and Walsh, standing, tugged out porcelainberry roots while Sisters Rowley and Murray pulled the last of the ivy on Sept. 10.





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.









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

- Steward Amy Crumpton, Stuart Davis, Susan Matchett, and Josh and Isaac Waldman.
- germination is not guaranteed, we have faith.
- And you, for watching, caring, learning, and perhaps joining us soon.

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-

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

Earth Sangha Conservation Manager Matt Bright provided expert advice on what to plant where.

Jo Allen, Brandymore Castle Park Co-Steward