

City of Rochester Hills Green Space Advisory Board



UPDATE – OCTOBER 19, 2020



Darlene Janulis, Chair

Values of Green Space

Some of these values have never been more apparent than now during COVID

- **Studies consistently show:**
 - Green Spaces are associated with better mental health and physical health
 - Reduce stress
 - Improve air quality and water quality
 - Green Spaces provide economic benefits
 - Increase property value
 - Green Spaces provide ecological and environmental benefits
 - Quality habitat for diverse wildlife
 - Improve stormwater impacts
 - Green Spaces improve recreation opportunities



Green Space Background

In 2005 the City residents approved a 0.3 mill 10 year open space millage to acquire and preserve natural green space.



The millage purpose was modified in 2013 to allow for:

- Protection
- Care and maintenance
- Improved pedestrian accessibility

Property Summary

- Total Number of Green Space Parcels: 7
- Total Green Space Acreage: 127 Acres



Green Space Advisory Board



In 2005 City Council Created a 9 Member Green Space Advisory Board (GSAB) to develop strategies and recommendations to Council to:

- Fiscal review of stewardship projects
- Review any new acquisition nominations
- Outreach

Members

Citizen Representatives

Peter Beightol
Term: 12/31/2021

Joe Bruce
Term: 12/31/2022

Jayson Graves, Vice Chairperson
Term: 12/31/2021

Darlene Janulis, Chairperson
Term: 12/31/2020

Philip Leach
Term: 12/31/2020

David McCracken
Term: 12/31/2020

Andrea Merritt
Term: 12/31/2022

Heidi Morris
Term: 12/31/2021

Terry Stephens
Term: 12/31/2022

City Council Representative

Susan Bowyer, Ph.D.
City Council
Term: 12/07/2020

City Staff Representatives

Matt Einheuser
Natural Resources Manager

Ken Elwert
Director of Parks Natural Resources

Youth Council Representatives

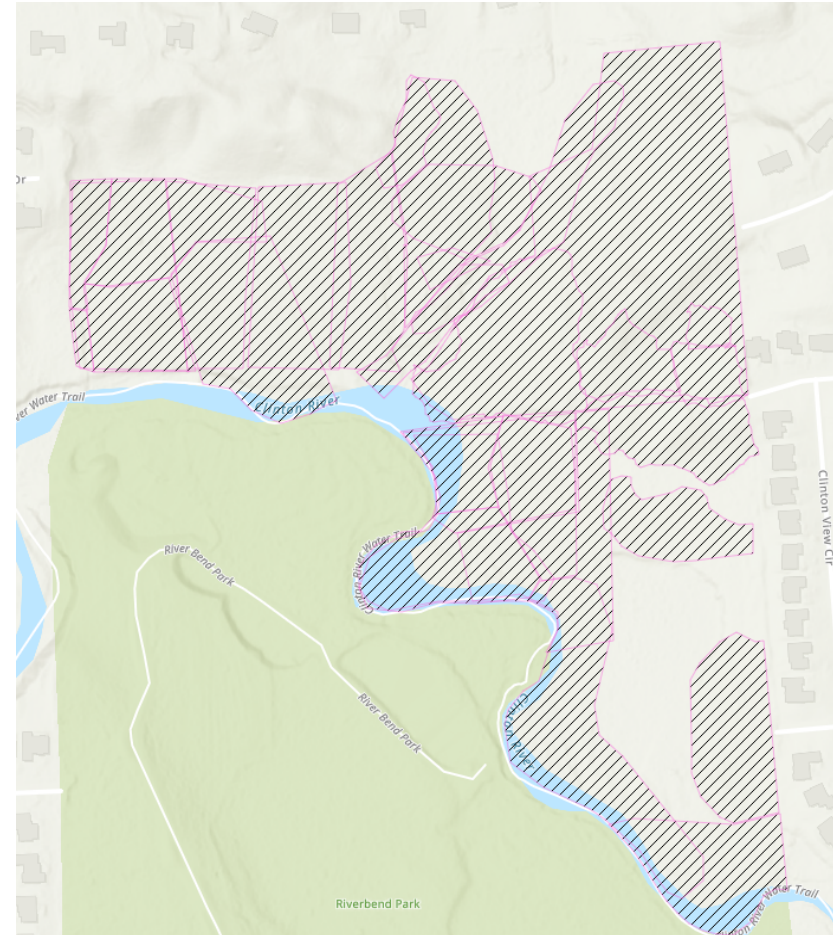
Ryan Barrett, Caroline Bull and Maya Vijayakumar





2020 Stewardship

- Marked the start of working with a new contractor – Cardno
- Work largely focused on Innovation Hills Green Space, Harding Green Space, and Ruby Green Space.
- Total of approx. 25 projects on 6 properties.
- Continued with City-wide Phragmites treatments and other stewardship support (river projects and Innovation Hills wetland restoration)
- Innovative solutions to tracking the projects and efforts



Removing Invasive Plants



Phragmites



Woody Invasives Removal



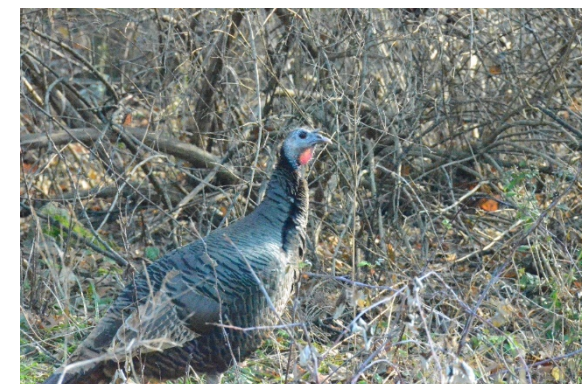
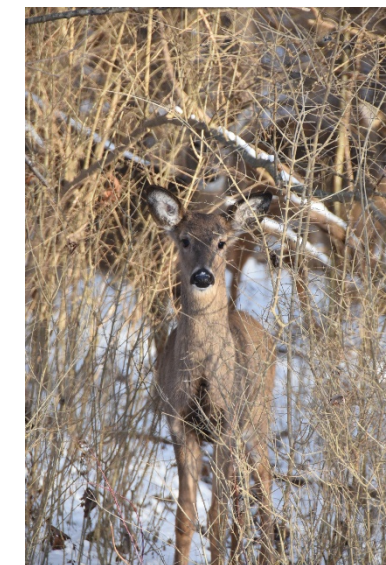
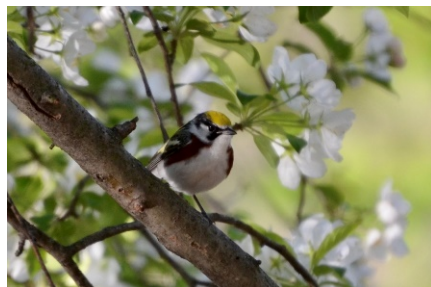
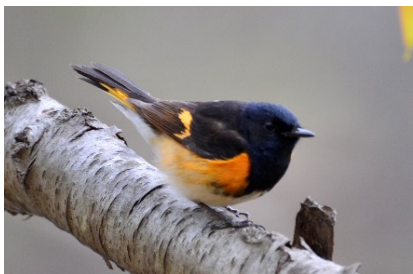
Habitat Restoration – Wetlands



Habitat Restoration - Prairies



Some Green Space Residents



THANK YOU

QUESTIONS???



Thank You for support in protecting our green spaces!

- City Council
- Mayor Barnett
- City Staff

