



THE STEW CREW NEWS

June 2017

Conservation Calendar

Treat/Cut Small Trees
Out of a Prairie 6/6

Forest Restoration at
Triple Creek 6/14

Cut/Treat and Remove
Honeysuckle from the
Inner Loop of the
Wood Duck Trail 6/24

Forest Restoration
Withrow Nature
Preserve 6/27

Shaker Trace
Nursery Work Varies

Reminders

- Bring something to drink
- Wear sturdy gloves
- Consider bug repellent
- We recommend long pants, long-sleeved shirts and closed-toe shoes
- Have fun!



June's Invasive of the Month!!!!

June is the month when you might see yet another invasive weed in bloom called Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*). While it does have a few redeeming qualities such as nectar for insects and seeds for birds, Canada thistle is extremely invasive and is listed as a noxious weed by the Ohio Department of Agriculture. Unlike its name suggests, Canada thistle is not native to Canada or even North America. It is native to eastern and northern Europe and western Asia, and was introduced to North America as early as the late 1600's and early 1700's. It spread so rapidly that in 1795, Vermont enacted legislation requiring landowners to control the weed. Canada thistle became naturalized in 58 of the 88 counties in Ohio, and beginning in 1844 landowners were required to mow land infested with it.

Canada thistle reproduces two ways; the first is from seed. Under favorable conditions a single shoot can produce over 40 flowering heads and 1500 seeds that may remain viable in the soil for up to 20 years. The other way is from root fragments. They can regenerate from a fragment less than an inch in length, and grow as deep as 3 feet and horizontally to 1 1/2 feet, sprouting several shoots. Cultivation only breaks up the roots and makes more sprouts for a bigger infestation.

June Stew Crew Projects

Cut/Treat Small Trees Out of a Prairie

What: This is a rescheduled project from April that we were not able to accomplish because of large ash tree removal project that happened in the area on that day.

When: June 6 from 9 a.m.–noon

Where: Meet at the Tall Grass Prairie Trail parking lot in Miami Whitewater Forest.

Register: RSVP by June 5 to Scott Peak at speak@greatparks.org

Forest Restoration at Triple Creek

What: In the fall of 2015, crews from Great Parks did a large-scale herbicide treatment at Triple Creek Park to reduce the amount of bush honeysuckle growing in a very nice mature forest. We have seen a resurgence of tree seedlings and ephemeral wildflowers coming up in the area, so we must fight to maintain the area as invasive-free as possible. We will be cutting remaining pockets of honeysuckle and treating the stumps to keep them from growing back. This area is very high quality, and is very much worth the effort!

When: June 14 from noon–3 p.m.

Where: Meet at the Triple Creek parking lot by the pond

Register: RSVP by June 13 to Chris Glassmeyer at cglassmeyer@greatparks.org

Treat/Cut and Remove Honeysuckle from the Inner Loop of the Wood Duck Trail

What: We will be hand cutting and removing honeysuckle from inside the loop of the Wood Duck Trail for better aesthetics and habitat management.

When: June 24 from noon–3 p.m.

Where: Meet at the Wood Duck Trail parking lot in Mitchell Memorial Forest.

Register: RSVP by June 23 to Scott Peak at speak@greatparks.org

Forest Restoration Withrow Nature Preserve

What: With the decline of Ash trees in southwest Ohio, forest canopies are being broken up and allowing sunlight to reach the forest floor. In a perfect world, this kind of disturbance would be beneficial. But the reality is invasive plants are taking over these areas and are in desperate need of some management. So join us as we remove invasive plants and restore these areas. We will be cutting honeysuckle and oriental bittersweet vines to allow new trees to grow. Hope to see you all there!

When: June 27 from 9 a.m.–noon

Where: Meet at the Withrow Nature Preserve

Register: RSVP by June 26 to Chris Glassmeyer at cglassmeyer@greatparks.org

Shaker Trace Nursery Work

What: Join us as we work together to process seed, and complete other important chores at the Nursery.

When: Every Thursday from 8 a.m.–noon

Where: Miami Whitewater Forest, Shaker Trace Nursery, 8667 New Haven Road, Harrison, OH 45030

Register: None required – just stop by!

*“Chaos was
the law of
nature; order
was the dream
of man.”*

—Henry B. Adams

Volunteer Hours

Don't forget to record your service! This information is used when applying for grants and other sources of outside support. Please record your hours under **Stew Crew [NATURAL RESOURCE/ All locations]**.

