

Arlington Reservoir Committee Envision Arlington Environmental Group Annual Report

Reservoir Committee draft Annual Report for 2022 - 12/29/22



we weeded out undesirable plants and removed much of the dried tall grass from the previous season. We also relocated some of the tall grass clumps to prevent them from dominating the garden. Invasive mugwort was removed and replanted with



With the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Arlington Reservoir Committee met remotely for regular monthly meetings, which simplified finding a meeting room. The Reservoir Committee held in-person workdays in the Wildlife Habitat Garden between March and October with monthly walks year round.

The garden marked its twelfth growing season. With volunteers,



Butterfly weed, Spotted Bee Balm, Hairy Beardtongue, Purple Coneflower and Columbine among others. Volunteers contributed flowers like Hoary Vervain, Anise Hyssop, Solomon Seal and more. Many thanks for the volunteer support and the signs that were provided by **Girl Scouts Troop #62571 Jun18** (photos Johanna Meyer) and DPW. Other volunteer assistance included Oberlin Alumni, JFK Women's Network, AHS students and alumni, Meadowscaping for Biodiversity, Mystic River Watershed Assoc. and Charles River Canoe & Kayak. Several new volunteers from **ArMI May 7** (photo Johanna Meyer), Boston Volunteers and

the **Boston Area Returned Peace Corps Volunteers June 23** (photo Brian McBride) returned regularly for our gardening days.



The Reservoir Master Plan was completed this year with a grand reopening event at the Beach in June. Committee members provided a nature activity table for kids with Native plant water color images provided by Green Blossom Painting where we talked about native and invasive species.

Kids Activity Table at Res Grand Reopening June 18 (photo Ann LeRoyer)

The Reservoir renovations are a great success, with an accessible walking path, numerous benches, and a viewing deck. The beach was open for a full season of swimming, with improved water quality provided by the new water-treatment system. Many more people are now using the path around the Reservoir, and it has become a safe place for



kids to learn how to bike. The Wildlife Habitat Garden now has a new post and rail fence installed as part of the landscaping program of the Arlington Reservoir Master Plan <http://arlingtonreservoir.org/reservoir-master-plan/>.

Water chestnut mechanical harvesting happened regrettably late in the summer due to contracting problems. A hand harvesting event in August attracted over thirty volunteers working both on shore and on the water. More than 210 baskets of water chestnuts were removed in one afternoon.

Volunteer water chestnut harvesting efforts on August 27 (photo by Charu Tevali)



More information about the committee’s activities, along with photos, can be found at the Reservoir Committee website:

www.arlingtonreservoir.org, which includes a link for signing up for the committee’s email list and contact information for volunteer groups.

The Arlington Land Trust maintains a stewardship fund for the work of the Reservoir Committee, mostly used for Wildlife Habitat Garden expenses.

Those wishing to support this work can make a designated tax-deductible donation through the ALT website:

<https://arlingtonlandtrust.org/join-donate/>

Res Picture Post Repair Crew October - George Stephans, David White, Stephan Miller



David White and Johanna Meyer for the Reservoir Committee of Envision Arlington.