

Arlington Reservoir Committee

Envision Arlington Environmental Group

2021 Annual Report

With the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic 2021 continued to be a different kind of year for the Arlington Reservoir Committee. Our committee met only remotely which simplified finding a meeting room. The beach, on the other hand, was open for a full season of swimming with improved water quality provided by the new water-treatment system.

The Wildlife Habitat Garden was in its twelfth growing season, and we had monthly in-person workdays with reasonable precautions. In addition to weeding out undesirable plants and removing much of the dried tall grass from the previous season, we also relocated some of the tall grass clumps to prevent these from dominating the garden. We engaged volunteer support working with Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, and new groups like Boston Volunteers, and Boston Area Return Peace Corps Volunteers. Several new volunteers returned regularly for our gardening days.

Water chestnut mechanical harvesting was not done this summer because of the construction work on the Reservoir area and the lack of access. There was also no hand harvesting.

The Reservoir Master Plan moved into Phase 2 construction with work on the perimeter path and shoreline. The work on the parking lot and beach area is mostly done and will be completed in the spring before the 2022 beach season. Among other things, the Wildlife Habitat Garden now has a new post and rail fence. Public documents related to the Master Plan can be found at the Reservoir Committee website: <http://arlingtonreservoir.org/reservoir-master-plan/>.

The Arlington Land Trust maintains a stewardship fund for the work of the Reservoir Committee. This has mostly been used for the Wildlife Habitat Garden expenses. Those wishing to make a tax-deductible donation for this can do so through the ALT website: <https://arlingtonlandtrust.org/join-donate/>

More information about the committee's activities, along with photos, can be found at the Reservoir Committee website: www.arlingtonreservoir.org, where you can also join the Reservoir email list.

David White and Johanna Meyer for the Reservoir Committee of Envision Arlington, 1/5/22



Reservoir Group with Returning Peace Corp Volunteers, 10/23/21