

City of Evanston

North Shore Channel Habitat Project

Ladd Arboretum Habitat: Herbaceous Plants

Evanston is working to improve and care for natural areas along the North Shore Channel and in other public lands. In the Ladd Arboretum, a two-year grant supports work along a 1,100-foot section of the channel running northeast from Bridge Street. Fortunately, a number of native trees and wildflowers are already established in this area. We are working around them to clear invasive and weedy plants and fill in with native plants. This will result in a layered structure of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants that provide food and shelter for pollinators and birds throughout the year. Plugs of the following were planted in Fall 2017.

Botanical name	Common name	Notable wildlife value
SHADY AREAS		
<i>Actea pachypoda</i>	DOLLS EYES	
<i>Allium cernuum</i>	NODDING WILD ONION	
<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	WILD COLUMBINE	Hummingbirds
<i>Aralia racemosa</i>	SPIKENARD	Hummingbirds
<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i>	JACK-IN-THE-PULPIT	
<i>Carex grayi</i>	COMMON BUR SEDGE	
<i>Caulophyllum thalictroides</i>	BLUE COHOSH	Berries for birds
<i>Chelone glabra</i>	TURTLEHEAD	Pollinators
<i>Mertensia virginica</i>	VIRGINIA BLUEBELLS	Hummingbirds
<i>Polygonatum biflorum</i> var. <i>commutatum</i> (<i>P. canaliculatum</i>)	SMOOTH SOLOMON'S SEAL	Berries for birds
<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i>	CHRISTMAS FERN	
<i>Thalictrum dasycarpum</i>	MEADOWRUE	
<i>Trillium grandiflorum</i>	WHITE TRILLIUM	
<i>Uvularia grandiflora</i>	BELLWORT	
PART SHADE		
<i>Carex pensylvanica</i>	COMMON OAK SEDGE	Seeds for migrant, winter songbirds
<i>Dodecatheon meadia</i>	SHOOTING STAR	
<i>Geranium maculatum</i>	WILD GERANIUM	
<i>Physostegia virginiana</i> ssp. <i>virginiana</i>	SHOWY OBEDIENT PLANT	
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i> (<i>Andropogon scoparius</i>)	LITTLE BLUESTEM GRASS	Seeds for migrant, winter songbirds
<i>Solidago flexicaulis</i>	BROAD-LEAVED GOLDENROD	Seeds for migrant, winter songbirds
<i>Tradescantia ohiensis</i>	SPIDERWORT	
<i>Zizia aurea</i>	GOLDEN ALEXANDER	Black swallowtail butterfly larval host

SUN		
Asclepias tuberosa	BUTTERFLY MILKWEED	Monarch butterfly larval host
Dodecatheon meadia	SHOOTING STAR	
Eragrostis spectabilis	PURPLE LOVE GRASS	Seeds for migrant, winter songbirds
Liatris pycnostachya	PRAIRIE BLAZING STAR	Hummingbirds
Parthenium integrifolium	WILD QUININE	
Penstemon digitalis	BEARD TONGUE	Hummingbirds
Silphium laciniatum	COMPASS PLANT	
Silphium terebinthinaceum	PRAIRIE DOCK	Hummingbirds
Sporobolus heterolepis	PRAIRIE DROPSEED	Seeds for migrant, winter songbirds
Symphotrichum laeve (Aster laevis)	SMOOTH BLUE ASTER	Seeds for migrant, winter songbirds

In addition, seeds of the following flowers and grasses were planted in late 2017. It may be a year or more before we know whether or not they have germinated.

Allium canadense	WILD ONION	
Bouteloua curtipendula	SIDE OATS GRAMA	Seeds for migrant and winter songbirds
Bromus pubescens	WOODLAND BROME	Seeds for migrant and winter songbirds
Coreopsis palmata	PRAIRIE COREOPSIS	Pollinators
Echinacea purpurea	PURPLE CONEFLOWER	Seeds for songbirds
Elymus hystrix (Hystrix patula)	BOTTLEBRUSH GRASS	
Elymus villosus	SILKY WILD RYE	
Eryngium yuccifolium	RATTLESNAKE MASTER	
Helianthus strumosus	PALE-LEAVED SUNFLOWER	Seeds for songbirds
Osmorhiza claytonii	SWEET CICELY	
Phlox divaricata	WILD BLUE PHLOX	Hummingbirds
Rudbeckia subtomentosa	SWEET BLACK-EYED SUSAN	
Scrophularia marilandica	LATE FIGWORT	Hummingbirds
Veronicastrum virginicum	CULVER'S ROOT	

Recommended for additional background:

Native Plants in the Home Landscape. Keith Gerard Nowakowski. U. of Illinois Extension Circular 1381, 2004.
Illinois Wildflowers, www.illinoiswildflowers.info. Maintained by John Hilty.

This project is a collaboration between the City of Evanston and members of the community, who also are planting and caring for habitat plantings in Twiggs and Harbert Parks and in front of the Civic Center. This phase of the work is supported by a grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Chi-Cal Rivers Fund.

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