



April 1, 2017

[www.friendsofwaterfordpark.org](http://www.friendsofwaterfordpark.org)

Contact: [info@friendsofwaterfordpark.org](mailto:info@friendsofwaterfordpark.org)

To all park supporters:

Our twelfth year has been one of change and accomplishment.

The shared-use path (accessed from Baker Park through the tunnel under Route 15) has allowed many more people to discover the beauty of Waterford Park. The dog waste and trash facilities appear to be doing their job. We have had some vandalism; FWP has purchased and installed a surveillance camera and plans a motion-activated light for our planting/children's seat area. Fingers crossed that this mischief is not an ongoing issue.

Our worker bees have had a great winter. We have volunteered more than 200 hours so far in 2017. We tackled a couple of neglected areas and continued our removal of honeysuckle in the woods adjoining the path. Personnel from Frederick Noxious Weed Control are assisting this spring with spot-spraying the bittersweet and grape that we cannot pull and, which left to grow, will reach the treetops and kill existing shrubs and trees.

The Rock Creek streambank restoration project is in the final planning stages; construction should begin in 2017. Streambank erosion is a huge problem in this lower end of Rock Creek. Our current understanding is that obstacles such as dead trees will be properly laid in the stream to slow the water, part of the Rosgen method of erosion control. Public meetings to review this plan have not yet been scheduled.

Our plans for 2017 include an April 15<sup>th</sup> planting of about three dozen trees in the understory, on the hill near Baughmans Lane and near the stream below the last bridge. Students from Hood College will assist with this planting. We also intend to monitor the growth of the middle of the meadow, the area seeded last fall. Finally, it is also the year for the second treatment of ash trees to prevent destruction from emerald ash borer. The 2015 treatment appears to have been effective. Dan Yates of Bartlett Tree Experts has inspected the trees a couple of times. Our cost is \$3,336. Thanks to several large donations for ash treatment, we currently have the funds for this year's work. If you wish to donate specifically for future treatments (we will have 3 more in coming years), please indicate that on your renewal form. As we do every year, we will mulch, weed and water as needed. Next fall we will plant more trees and get back to invasives control. Never-ending but always-rewarding.

You are the reason we succeed. Some of you are worker bees, some are donors, many use and enjoy the park. All of you share our enthusiasm for these 18 acres and appreciate the changes of the past 12 years. All you have to do is walk past Baughmans Lane to see what the park would look like if it did not receive constant attention. Let's keep it up!

FWP Board of Directors

Ginny Brace Rachel Zigler Alice Meiners Kathy Soria Dan Yates  
Karen Berkheimer Morton



We love trees!!

KidsTheseDays, Inc. comes once a month to help



Bat house installation

Kids enjoying the seating area

