

dave@maloney.com

From: Friends of Waterford Park Inc. <info@friendsofwaterfordpark.org>
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To: dave@maloney.com
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Quarterly Newsletter

Spring-Summer 2026

First, thanks to all that have already renewed their membership this year and generously donated. For those that have not yet renewed, please do so at your earliest convenience. Online payment option (PayPal) available here:

<https://www.friendsofwaterfordpark.org/join-renew-donate/>

We appreciate your ongoing support!

In this edition—

- In case you missed it
 - Future updates and events
 - Invasive control update from City of Frederick
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Worker bees Kay and Kevin planting natives at the kiosk bed

Park Happenings

In case you missed recent emails from Ginny, the FWP worker bees and vendors have been busy this spring, including:

- **Garden maintenance** — Ongoing weeding and mulching across multiple garden beds.
- **Planting** — New natives planted at the kiosk, key bench, and turtle garden beds: mountain mint, coreopsis, goldenrod, phlox, asters, and wild petunias. Several transplants were relocated to the woods from Ginny's yard: cherries, hollies, and hawthorns.
- **Invasive removal** — Efforts were focused on bush honeysuckle removal, and flagging natives in advance of city's invasive control efforts. Celandine (fig buttercup) was treated by Residential Reforestation in March.
- **Tree care** — Some deadwood clearing and branch pruning. Monitoring the woods for signs of frost damage. Three rust treatments were completed by Bartlett Tree Experts.

- **General park maintenance** — Tasks included shed clean-up, birdhouse checks, and fencing repairs.
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Future updates and events

Summers tend to be dominated by watering, weeding, and non-native pulling. Hopefully this summer proves to be wetter than the last few. For the summer/fall newsletter, we plan to provide updates on community engagement activities, the city's work in the meadow, and potential tree planting events for the fall.



Invasive removal along Carroll Creek

And now, a word from our sponsors

This spring, the City of Frederick completed the first phase of a multi-year invasive species management project in Waterford Park. The effort focused on controlling non-native invasive plants, including bush honeysuckle, that compete with native vegetation and reduce the ecological health of the forest.

By managing these invasive species, the City is creating opportunities for native trees, shrubs, and other vegetation to regenerate naturally, improving wildlife habitat, biodiversity, and the long-term health of the park's forest ecosystem. While the initial phase of invasive species control can appear extreme, it is a necessary first step in the restoration process. Removing dense stands of invasive vegetation allows sunlight to reach the forest floor and creates space for native plants to regenerate and thrive.

As part of this work, some woody debris was intentionally left on site. In naturalized areas, this material provides valuable wildlife habitat and will gradually decompose, returning nutrients to the soil and supporting forest health.

This project represents the first step in an ongoing restoration effort. Additional maintenance and follow-up treatments will be conducted over the coming years to promote a healthier, more resilient native forest within Waterford Park.

The next phase of the project will focus on controlling non-native and invasive species that resprout following the initial treatment and replanting select open areas with native vegetation this fall. Depending on available funding and project costs, these plantings may be implemented in phases over multiple fiscal years.

The City appreciates the continued partnership and support of the Friends of Waterford Park and the many residents who help steward this valuable community resource.

— *City of Frederick*



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