

LEARN

Our project will be hosting two workshops in 2022:

Native Plant Workshop and Garden Planting

Tuesday, May 24, 2022

5:30-7:30 p.m.

Lapping Park disc golf course

Clarksville, IN

A short presentation on native plants will be given at the start of the workshop and then participants can assist in planting the five gardens.

Invasive Plant ID and Weed Wrangle

Thursday, September 15, 2022

5:30-7:30 p.m.

Garry E. Cavan Park

Georgetown, IN

We will be “wrangling” invasive plants from the landscape surrounding the disc golf course. Partner staff will assist participants in invasive ID and control methods.

Want to learn more about disc golf?

Visit www.soindiscgolf.com and find information on leagues, events, membership, and more!



PROJECT PARTNERS



CLARK COUNTY
soil and water conservation
DISTRICT



For more information on this project:

Clark County SWCD

9608 Highway 62

Charlestown, IN 47111

812.256.2330, ext. 3

www.clarkswcd.org

Fore! Invasive Species Awareness Project



An educational outreach program to increase invasive species awareness within Clark and Floyd counties, and promote the benefits of native species.



This project made possible by a 2022 Friends of the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) Grant.



PROJECT BACKGROUND

In the summer of 2021, the Clark County SWCD was contacted by the SOIN Disc Golf Club, who maintain a disc golf course in Lapping Park, Clarksville, IN. The group was worried about the degradation of their course due to the foot traffic it receives from players, and from visitors to the park who use it as a hiking trail; large areas have been denuded of vegetation due to activity. An environmentally conscious group, they were aware of invasive species, and were worried that invasives would consume the course if site conditions worsened, destroying its beauty. A site visit confirmed a heavy infestation of Japanese Stiltgrass, as well as other invasives. Control methods were recommended, but the club wanted to do more than just control. They wanted to educate visitors to the course about the environmental improvements they were making. Thus, this project was born!

INVASIVE

An **invasive plant** is any plant that is not native and whose introduction causes or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm, or harm to human health. Invasive plants decrease biodiversity, harm wildlife and reduce habitat for pollinators.

Invasives common to our area:

Tree of Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*)

Autumn Olive (*Elaeagnus umbellata*)

Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*)

Garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*)

Japanese stilt-grass (*Microstegium vimineum*)

VS.

NATIVE

A **native species** is a plant or animal that has evolved in a given place over a period of time sufficient to develop complex and essential relationships with the physical environment and other organisms in a given ecological community.

Natives common to our area:

Columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*)

Butterfly weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)

Little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*)

Smooth Hydrangea (*Hydrangea arborescens*)

Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*)

PROJECT GARDEN SITES

Gardens are located at the disc golf course holes 1, 5, 6, 11 and 17. Holes 1 and 5 were selected because they are highly visible to the general public just passing by the course. Holes 6, 11, and 17 were selected because they have erosion issues that would benefit from native plantings.

A mix of native trees, shrubs, and plants can be found in the gardens. They were selected specifically for the conditions present at each site— partial shade/shaded, wet soil, eroded soil, etc.

The garden at hole 1 is at the front of the course and is most visible to the public. It is the largest of the gardens, containing three species of shrubs and seven native plant species. The garden at hole 5 was planted entirely with native plants; hole 6 was planted with understory tree species due to the erosion taking place at the site; ferns populate holes 11 and 17 as they are completely shaded, and the soil stays moist year-round.



Lapping Park disc golf course