

DRAFT Scarlett Mitchell Nature Area Workplan 2025

Judy & Manfred Schmidt

Highlighted items denote change from previous document.

Judy and Manfred have been Park Stewards at Scarlett Mitchell since before it was an official Nature Area and are great advocates for the park. They have spent decades saving and improving this land.

Approvals include:

☐ Herbicide Applicator
Expires:

☒ Chainsaw (Manfred)
~ 20 years ago

☐ Brush Cutters

☐ CPR/First Aid
Expires:

☐ Workday Leader

☐ Burn Crew

Park Steward Projects

Year-Round

- Act as eyes and ears of park. Report any trees over trails, graffiti or issues to NAP
- Trim official trails as needed
 - While standing in the middle of the trail, anything that can be touched should be trimmed.
 - Obstructing non-native shrubs cut close to the ground.
 - Native, woody, obstructing branches can be pruned using [proper techniques found here](#).
 - **Take care to NOT cut Oaks between the April and November to prevent the spread of oak wilt.**
 - Debris scattered away from trail to avoid tripping hazards and improve aesthetics.
- Pick up trash as needed.
- Walk trails to check for trees over trails after storms, when possible, and report to NAP.
- Clear and maintain existing overgrown social trail in NW corner of C into marsh in B in the direction of the bluebird houses.



Spring

Invasive plants to be placed in bags labeled “noxious weeds” and disposed of in the trash.

- Sweep for and pull garlic mustard, dames rocket, bittercress, and other spring invasives throughout park.

Summer

Invasive plants to be placed in bags labeled “noxious weeds” and disposed of in the trash.

- Sweep for Japanese hedge parsley. If found, pull and report locations to NAP.

Autumn/Winter

- Document and report spread of invasive bittersweet noting areas of the park where it is only beginning to get started such as management area H.
- Control Celastrus along trail between C and E.
 - Options include:
 - Steward cutting to the ground. Know that without chemical treatment, it will resprout and need to be cut again. This can be done any time of year.
 - Leaving and reporting locations to NAP for herbicide treatment

Notes from Steward:

- Herbicide stumps from workday in unit G
 - NAP: This note is from last year and those stumps were taken care of. There are a small number of stumps in the same vicinity from the recent park steward workday and there is a work order for pesticide follow up in our system.
- Engage with and encourage interested members of the “Friends of the Woods” group to get involved with restoration activities on this workplan and to reach out to NAP to be added to the workplan if interested.
 - NAP: If you have a group that is interested in a workday, please reach out to us and we can organize a private workday for the group.

- Schedule Workdays in areas that have been neglected in recent years - particularly management units A, B & C - closest to Turnberry subdivision.
 - NAP: Noted and requested.
- Request NAP to prepare and implement a plan for getting the invasive bittersweet under control, particularly in along path between areas A & B
 - NAP: Noted. This is an issue in a lot of our parks. We are trying the best we can with the resources we have available.
- Manfred wants us to clear a trail from Turnberry to the wet area (unit E) between the two trailheads. Wants to be able to access the water.

Notes from NAP:

- Please report your volunteer hours monthly via the [VolunteerHub Park Stewards Page](#) or to the Park Steward Coordinator at NAP@a2gov.org or 734-794-6624 x43474.
 - Please **include maps of where work was done** so NAP can document appropriately and follow up where needed. **Notes on options for doing this and instructions for reporting hours online can be found here.**
- Maintaining communication with NAP about projects you are working on is crucial.
- If you would like to work on any other projects not listed above, please check in with NAP ahead of time to update workplan.

NAP Support:

- Communicate NAP activity in nature area.
- Provide PR and staff for workdays if scheduled.
- Brush hog trails in unit C loop trail as needed after gentians have flowered in late September
- Monitor and control phragmites intrusion in marsh area of Unit B

Signature – Park Steward*

Date

Signature – Park Steward*

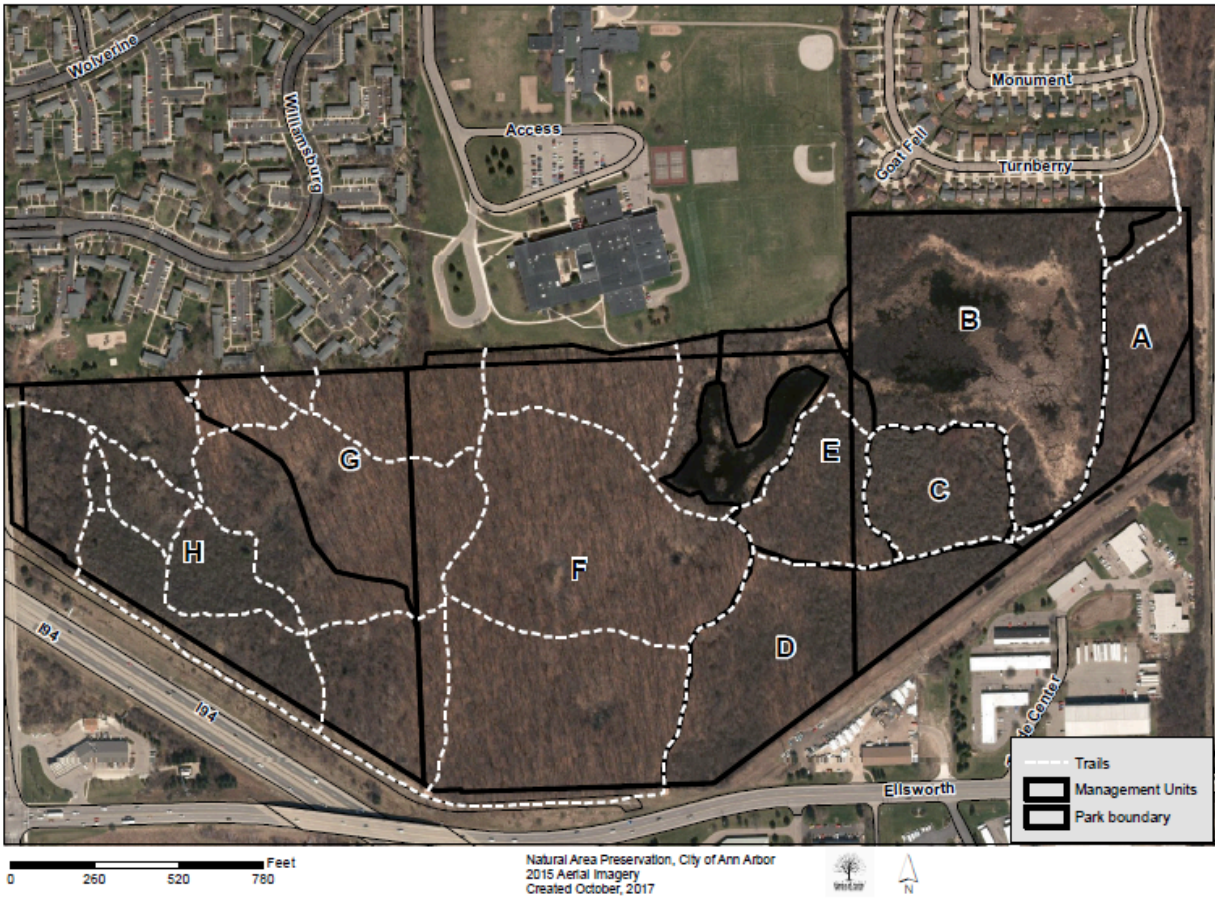
Date

Signature - Park Steward Coordinator

Date

*This document is an agreement between the park steward and the City of Ann Arbor Natural Area Preservation. It is imperative that park stewards stick to the activities outlined here and follow the agreed upon procedures. NAP manages hundreds of volunteers across 1,400 acres and nearly ninety natural areas. We rely on volunteers and staff alike to follow established plans, policies, and procedures to effectively manage the land we all love. Thank you.

Scarlett Mitchell Management Units



Scarlett Mitchell Priority Areas

