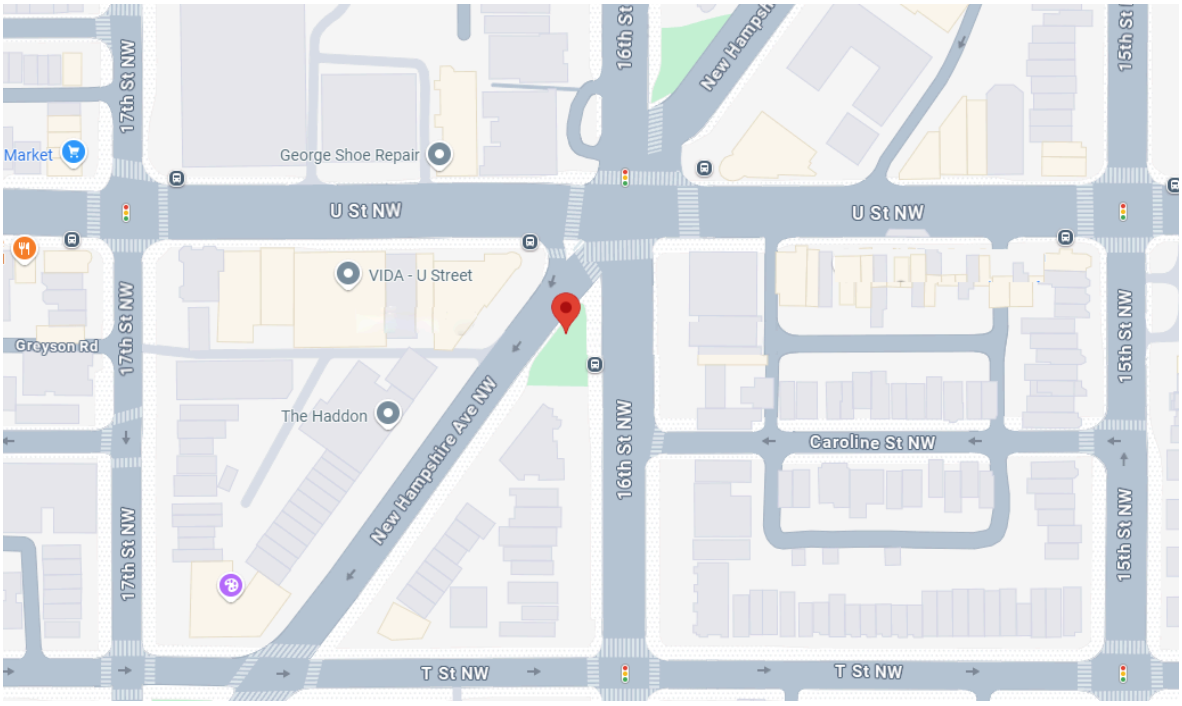
Reservation 146 Existing Site Description, October 2025

Reservation 146 is a triangle park in Northwest DC, owned by the National Park Service, located at the south side intersection of New Hampshire Avenue, 16th Street and U Streets NW. It measures 125' on New Hampshire Avenue, 70' on 16th Street, and 60' on the south side of the triangle. Total square footage is roughly 1112 sq. feet. There is a brick path that bisects the park.



<u>Native</u> Existing Vegetation

- Mature willow oak, Quecus phellos, DBH of 44.9
- Oak leaf hydrangea, Hydrangea quercifolia

<u>Invasive</u> Existing Vegetation *(* these plants are currently being removed in October 2025)*

- Leatherleaf Mahonia, Mahonia bealei
- Liriope, Liriope spicata
- Sweet Autumn Clematis, Clematis terniflora

<u>Ornamental</u> Existing Vegetation

- Crepe Myrtle at northern point of triangle

Sun / shade

- Willow oak cast quite a bit of shade over entire area
- Street tree on New Hampshire also provides shade over north section
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Water

- There is a water source on site, requiring a key
- There is no obvious grade or drainage direction. More observation is needed.

South section

North Section

View facing south east to 16th Street

Impetus for this project

I am in the process of completing a Pollinator Steward Certification program through Pollinator Partnership, - largest non-profit in the world dedicated exclusively to the protection and promotion of pollinators and their ecosystems. https://pollinator.org/ The certification specifies,"Completion of one habitat creation action and one outreach or education action. A similar short form must be filled out to show proof of actions.

For background, I have several years experience growing native gardens. My native garden on Porter Street NW was a certified Wildlife Habitat by the National Wildlife Federation. My garden on Long Island has been featured on the Xerces Pollinator native garden tour. As I now live in a townhouse on 15th Street, it is not possible to build pollinator habitat on my own property. The triangle part of Reservation 146 is a block away from my home. Aside from a few invasives that need to be removed, it provides a clean slate that has grand potential.

Goals and benefits of the project

- To build on the established collaboration of the Caroline Street Neighbors with the National Park service to maintain and improve Reservation 146 for the quiet enjoyment of all who pass by this busy corner.

- To meet the basic needs of pollinators and their entire life cycle by providing an urban landscape of native plants for food, and habitat.

- Pollinator corridors are thought of as stepping stones between two larger areas of viable habitat. This allows for animals to have smaller areas of land that they can use to forage or protect themselves while moving between areas. For pollinators this is especially important in an urban setting. By providing small green spaces, one is able to help bridge gaps between disturbed environments that might prove to be hostile to pollinators.

- Many cities have begun developing and expanding these corridors. This can include rooftop gardens and curbside areas alike. It engages the community by getting the public involved in creating green

spaces in their cities, and also brings awareness to the environment. The space does not need to be the size of a park, even a small area provides immense benefits for a corridor.

- A quick field trip to the school garden to watch bees and butterflies enjoy their nectar meals can inspire younger generations to learn about their local ecology and help encourage conservation practices to protect our pollinators.

- This project would support Washington DC's Pollinator Protection Plan detailed in this PDF: https://doee.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/ddoe/service_content/attachments/Final%20P3.pdf There are approximately 130 native bee species in the district, 4 of which are designated as Species of Greatest Concern. Native bees need native plants, as do the 100 species of butterfly have been recorded in the District. This project would exclusively plant native plants.

Project Steps

1. Receive approval from NPS to remove invasive plants on the site.
2. Receive approval from NPS to plant native plants on the site and suitable for the site location. The plants list (on next page) contains plants that are suitable for the location, but what actually gets plants will depend upon plants available.
3. Engage Caroline Street Residents Association members for their involvement
4. (Optional) Engage Dupont Circle Citizens Association and/or local ANC (2B09) Commissioner Christopher Davis to inquire about
    a) grant or funding to purchase native plants, and/or mobile volunteers to plant
    b) Volunteer invasive plant removal event
    c) Volunteer native planting event
5. Add Pollinator Stewardship signage to help inform the public of what is taking place.
6. Monitor the site for watering needs and plant health
7. Monitor the site for insect visitors

Project Timeline

January - May 2025 - I have been monitoring the site for sun and shade, and to take inventory of what plants are growing there. I have observed use of the space by neighbors, dog walkers, people passing by. Communicate with NPS about the project.

May - July 2025 - Remove invasive plants (listed above). Continue to monitor the space.

August - September 2025 - Reach out to native plant providers for potential donations of seedlings and plants to the project. Reach out to community groups for their interest and support (Caroline Street Residents Association, Dupont Citizens Association, ANC2B. Continued communication with NPS. Finalize plant list and planting design.

October - November 2025 - Begin planting native plants.

Documentation will take place throughout, both with write ups and pictures.

2026 - Monitor plant health. Weed. Water. Continue to remove invasives. Monitor insect activity. Repeat.

History of collaboration between National Park Service and Caroline Street Residents Association, as documented by CSRA

May 1995 - Two year agreement is signed between the Caroline Street Residents Association, "Sponsor" and the Department of the Interior, National Park Service, National Capital Region, National Capital Parks Center, "Service". Service agrees to allow Sponsor to plant, maintain, or replace existing shrubbery. Type of plants are subject to approval of the Superintendent.
Sponsor agrees to accept responsibility for planting and maintenance of all plant material within the assigned area and shall provide sufficient and organized volunteers to maintain the area.

June 1996 - Communication between Mark Clapp of NPS and Rich Busch of the Caroline Street Association detailing plant list to be planted.

August 1997 - Letter from Caroline Street Residents Association to Mark Clapp, ALSA, NPS with an update on the status of the park, and the compliments and expressions of appreciation from the passing neighbors on the naturalized look of the park.

December 2010 - New brick path bisecting the triangle park was put down in response to replace old path that had become lumpy and hazardous due to roots of Oak tree. The new path was is in a different location

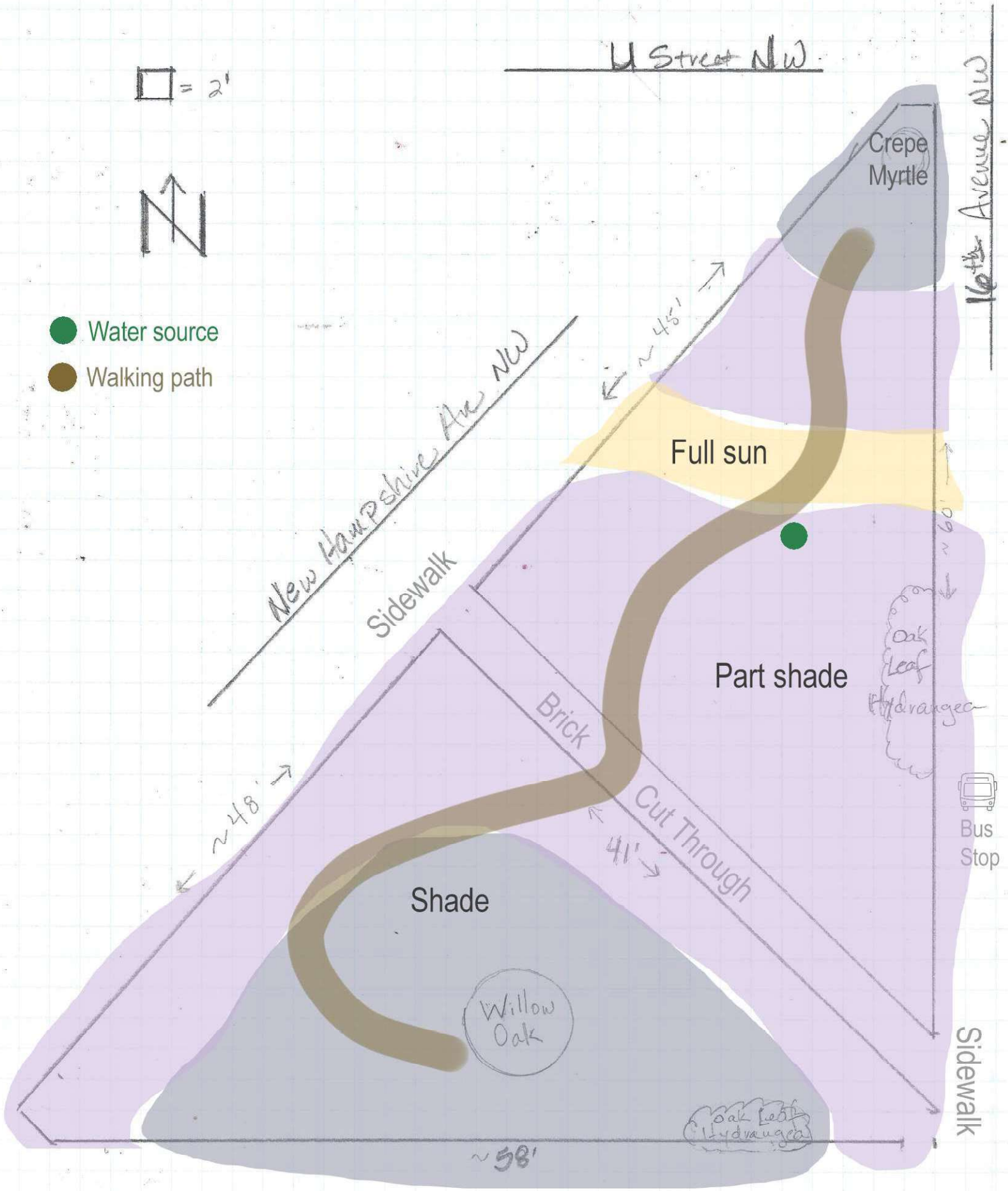
June 2018 and April 2019 - Communication from Rich Busch to James Pierce, Volunteer Coordinator, National Mall, updating NPS on the volunteer work at the Reservation 146: weeding, raking, collecting fallen tree limbs.

September 2020 - Communication between Rich Busch of CSRA and Matthew Morrison, Arborist National Mall requesting permission to plant more Liriope at Reservation 146, which was approved, with a reminder that NPS has the right to utilize the property at their discretion.

November 2020 - (invasive) Liriope is installed

June, August and September 2021- Email communication from Richard Busch of CSRA to Mathew Morrison detailing tree limbs that had fallen or appear to need attention and thanking Mr. Morrison for the work NPS has done on the tree.

Reservation 146 concept diagram



Vision for Reservation 146

The triangular reservation is bisected by a brick walking path. The two sections offer different sun/shade profiles thus different opportunities for plantings.

The south section is dominated by a mature Willow Oak and is in full shade most of the day. This spot lends itself to a woodland garden of common native plants found in Rock Creek and the mid-Atlantic:

Common violets	Golden ragwort	Virginia bluebells
Columbine	Foam Flower	Woodland Phlox
Pennsylvania Sedge	Virginia spring beauties	Virginia Knotweed

All these plants do well in shade and will tolerate dry conditions. The variety of green textures add visual interest and an inviting cool respite in the heat of the city. Equally important, these plants provide "soft landings", defined as diverse native plantings under keystone trees (oaks) that provide critical shelter and habitat for one or more life cycle stages of moths, butterflies, and beneficial insects.

The north section is partial sun and shade, with the eastern side getting morning sun; the western side getting afternoon sun and there is a small band getting full sun. This section would be a pollinator garden. The plant list chosen will provide blooms for pollinators from March - October.

While the plant list may change, the common plant traits I've looked for are:

- native to DC
- ability to tolerate dry conditions
- tiered plant heights with a height cap of 4 feet
- a mounding or neat habit (not too tall or floppy)

Both sections will have a walking path and display "cues for care", signaling intentional landscape design and the continuing human presence of care.

Following is a revised plant list, pictures of the plants on the plant list, and pictures of woodland and pollinator garden that represent the vision for this project. Also included are pictures of a municipal park two blocks away.

Indicates Woodland Garden area. ** plant together	Plant List - November 2025	Sun requirements	Moisture needs	Height	Mid-Atlantic Tried & True Native	Bloom Time	Bloom Color	Benefit Pollinators?
	Existing plants on site							
	Oakleaf Hydrangea, Hydrangea quercifolia(?)	part sun	medium	6-8'		May-July	white	possibly
	Spiderwort, Tradescantia virginiana	sun / part-full shade	moist to medium	1'-3'	yes	March - July	purple	native bees, butterflies
	Spring Blooms							
	Carolina Wild Petunia, Ruellia carliniensis	part shade	dry to moist	1' - 2'	no	May - Sept	lavender	butterflies
*may not do well	Columbine, Aquiliegia canadensis	sun - part shade	dry to moist	2'	yes	April - May	red	butterfly, hummingbirds
20 transplants	Common Blue Violet, Viola sororia	sun - part shade	moist to medium	6"	yes	Feb - April	blue	butterflies
10 plants	Golden Ragwort, Packera aurea	part shade / full shade	moist to medium	1'-2'	yes	April	yellow	bees, butterflies
	Virginia Spring Beauties, Claytonia virginica	sun / part-full shade	moist	6"	yes	Jan - May	pink	native bees
	Woodland Phlox, Phlox divaricata	part shade / full shade	moist	1'-1.5'	yes	April - July	purple	butterflies, hummingbirds
	Pussy toes, Antennaria solitaria	sun - part shade	dry to moist	1'-2'	no	March - April	white	
10 plants	Nodding onion, Allium Cernum	sun - part shade	dry to medium	1'-1.5'	no	May - June	pink	bees
6 plants, seeds	Baptisia, False Indigo	sun - part shade	dry to medium	3'-5'	yes	May - June	blue	deep root systme
	Eastern Bluestar, Amsonia tabermontana	full sun	moist	2'-3'	yes	April - May	blue	butterflies, moths
seeds	Golden Alexander, Zizia aruea	sun - part shade	dry to medium	1.5'-3'	yes	May - June	yellow	bees, pollinators
	Summer Blooms							
**	Blue Lobelia, Lobelia siphilitica (extra water)	part shade / full shade	moist	2'-4'	yes	July - September	blue	high value
seeds	Obedient Plant, Physostegia virginia	sun / part-full shade	dry to moist	3'-4'	no	July - September	pink	bees, butterflies, hummingbirds
	Virginia Knotweed, Persicaria virginiana	full shade	medium	1'-3'	yes	July - August	white	butterflies
8 plants	Self-Heal, Prunella vulgaris	sun / part-full shade	dry to moist	6'-1'	no	June - November	pink/purple	bees, butterflies
3 transplants, seeds	Black-eyed Susan, Rudbeckia hirta	sun - part shade	dry to moist	1'-3'	yes	June - October	yellow	bees, butterflies, seeds for birds
seeds	Blue Vervain, Verbena hastata	sun - part shade	moist	1'-5'	yes	July - September	blue / purple	
6 plants	Butterfly (milk)weed, Asclepias tuberosa	sun - part shade	dry to moist	1'-3'	yes	June - August	orange	bees, monarchs
**	Cardinal Flower, Lobelia cardinalis (extra water)	sun - part shade	moist	2'-5'	yes	July - Sept	red	butterflies, hummingbirds
	Cutleaf Primrose, Oenothera lacinata	part shade	low to average	6"-2'	no	July - October	yellow	bees, butterflies
6 plants	Beardtongue Huskers Red, Penstemon digitalis	sun - part shade	medium	3'-5'	no	May - July	white	native bees, hummingbirds
10 plants **	Beardtongue, Penstemon digitalis	sun - part shade	medium	3'-5'	no	May - July	white	native bees, hummingbirds
6 plants	Coreopsis Sunshine Superman, C. pubescens	full sun	medium	1'	no	June - September	yellow	butterflies
	Goldenrod (bluestem/wreath), Solidago caesia	sun - part shade	dry to moist	2'-3'	yes	Aug - October	yellow	high value for bees
	Goldenrod (showy), Solidago erecta	sun - part shade	medium	2'-3'		Aug - October	yellow	special value to native bees
plant grant / seeds	Goldenrod (rough stem), Solidago rugosa	sun - part shade	moist	4-5'	yes	Aug - October	yellow	beneficial insects
plant grant	Spotted St John's Wort, Hypericum punctatum	sun - part shade	medium	2'-3'		June - September	yellow	bees
	Mountain Mint, Pycnanthemum tenuifolium	sun - part shade	dry to medium	2'-3'		July - September	white	bees, butterflies
	Clustered Mountain Mint, Pycnanthemum muticum	sun - part shade	dry to medium	2'-3'		July - September	white	bees
seeds **	Spotted Beebalm, Monarda punctata	sun - part shade	dry to moist	1.5'-2'	yes	July - October	pink	bees, butterflies, wasps
seeds	Skullcap, Scutellaria incana	sun - part shade	dry to medium	2'-3'	no	June- July	blue	pollinators
seeds	Swamp Milkweed, Asclepias incarnata	sun - part shade	moist	3'-5'	yes	July - August	pink	bees, butterflies
plant grant	Hyssop Leaf Boneset, Eupatorium hyssopifolium	sun - part shade	dry to medium	1'-3'	yes	July - August	white	bees, songbirds
	Fall Blooms							
	Blue Wood Aster,Symphyotrichum cordifolium	part shade / full shade	dry to moist	2'-4'	yes	Aug - October	violet	high value
seeds	Mistflower, Conoclinium coelestrinum	full sun - part shade	average	2-3'		Aug - Nov	blue	special value to native bees
	White Wood Aster, Eurybia divaricata	part shade / full shade	dry to moist	1.5-2.5'	yes	July - October	white	butterflies, seeds for birds
5 plants	Aromatic aster, Symphyotrichum oblongifolium	full sun	dry	1'-3'		Sept - Nov	purple	butterflies, pollinator
2 plants	Aster Woods light blue, Aster dumosum	full sun - part shade	average	1'-1.5'	no	Aug - Sept	white & pink	high value
	Calico Aster, Symphyotrichum lateriflorum	full sun - part shade	average	1'-2'	no	Sept - Nov	white & pink	high value
seeds	Snakeroot, Ageratina altissima	sun - part shade	dry	3'-4'	no	Aug - Nov	white	
	Grasses & Groundcovers							
10 plants	Blue Woodsedge, Carex flaccosperma	part shade / full shade	moist	.5-1'	no			
10 plants	Little Bluestem, Schizachyrium scoparium	full sun - part shade	dry to medium	1/5'-4'	yes			birds
	Pennsylvania Sedge, Carex pensylvanica	part shade / full shade	dry to moist	6"-1"	yes			grows nears oaks
10 plants	Indian Grass, Sorghastrum nutans	full sun	dry to medium	3'-5'	yes			pollinators, native bees, birds
12 plants	Purple Lovegrass, Eragrostis spectabilis	full sun	dry to medium	1'-2.5'	yes			birds
	Bottlebrush grass, Elymus hystrix	part-full shade	dry to moist	2'-4'	yes			birds
	Ferns							
	Christmas Fern, Polystichum acrostichoides	part shade / full shade	dry - medium	1-2'				

Spring Blooms

Carolina Wild Petunia
Ruellia carliniensis

Columbine
Aquiliegia canadensis

Common Blue Violet
Viola sororia

Eastern Bluestar
Amsonia tabermontana

Golden Ragwort
Packera aurea

Jacob's Ladder
Polemonium reptans

Virginia Bluebells
Mertensia virginica

Virginia Spring Beauties
Claytonia virginica

Woodland Phlox Phlox divaricata

Summer Blooms

Alumroot
Heuchera americana

Black-eyed Susan
Rudbeckia hirta

Blue Lobelia
Lobelia siphilitica

Butterfly weed
Asclepias tuberosa

Cardinal Flower
Lobelia cardinalis

Cutleaf Primrose
Oenothera lacinata

Foxglove Beardtongue
Penstemon digitalis

Bluestem/Wreath Goldenrod
Solidago caesia

Obedient Plant
Physostegia virginia

Self-Heal
Prunella vulgaris

Spotted Beebalm
Monarda punctata

Virginia Knotweed
Persicaria virginiana

Fall Blooms

Blue Wood Aster
Symphyotrichum cordifolium

Calico Aster
Symphyotrichum lateriflorum

Mistflower
Conoclinium coelestrinum

Groundcovers, Grasses & Ferns

Bottlebrush grass
Elymus hystrix

Foam Flower
Tiarella cordifolia

Green and Gold
Chrysogonum virginianum

Pennsylvania Sedge
Carex pensylvanica

Wild Ginger
Asarum canadense

Marginal Wood Fern
Dennstaedtia marginalis

Christmas Fern
Polystichum acrostichoides

Examples of Woodland Gardens

Examples of Pollinator Gardens

DC Municipal Garden at New Hampshire & T Streets