

Restoration of the Siegel-Kline Kill Conservation Area

Columbia Land Conservancy

Project Summary:

This summer, the Columbia Land Conservancy is working on a restoration project at the Siegel Kline Kill Conservation Area which involves the removal of invasive plants. On May 18th a workday was held and attended by twelve volunteers, who over the course of three hours, manually removed invasive honeysuckle plants and installed two dozen native trees. CLC also hosted a Bio-Blitz survey on June 23rd where participants counted 145 species of plants, birds, stream macroinvertebrates, fungi, and more within the preserve. This 54.6-acre property has had a lot of exciting improvements in recent years and we can't wait to see how the native wildlife and flora responds to the work!

CLC has made progress on this project since our last update in June. We have selected a professional contractor (Helia Land Design) to create a detailed plan for restoring and improving the meadow habitat at CLC's Siegel-Kline Kill Conservation Area. Site preparation tasks have been scheduled for the month of November and December and include preparing the soil and seeding with a native conservation seed mix selected by the contractor.

Preparation for the native meadow began in November. Helia Land Design removed the top layer of soil, removing most of the pre-existing seed bank and relocating it on-site. CLC has hopes to utilize the excess soil as compost for potential use in a future community garden at the site. The meadow is now layered with fresh, dried compost and seeded with a mix native to the region.

As the seeds are left to overwinter, planning will continue for further improvements at the site, including the maintenance of the meadow as seeds begin to germinate in spring, as well as considerations for additional plantings, invasive species removal, and educational opportunities.

To find out more, visit CLC's Website and to see the results for yourself, visit the preserve!

