



## Reist Sanctuary and Kelly Adirondack Center (2019)

Field Manger Kristopher Williams:

**Project Description:** Educational Field Walk and Removal of Invasive Species

**Dates:** May 11<sup>th</sup> 2019

**Participants:** Kristopher Williams Capital Mohawk PRISM / Kelly Adirondack Center at Union College /  
 Union College Environmental Club / Hudson Mohawk Bird Club

### **Introduction:**

The Reist Sanctuary is a 111 acre wood located in the Town of Niskayuna and has a joint parking area with the Kelly Adirondack Center of Union College. The property house a research library for the Adirondack Region of New York State and offers an educational room and museum dedicated to Paul Schaefer a pioneer in early park conservation. The parking area is a main vector for the introduction of invasive species that threaten the preserve. The primary target goal for the day was to eliminate an infestation of invasive9s) in a Highly Probable Area which will lead to the protection a vulnerable vernal pool and bird habitat. The secondary goal of the outing today was to educate stakeholders in the Library, Preserve and Students of Union College regarding the threat that invasive species present to the preserve.

### **Site Owner & Point of Contact:**

The Kelly Adirondack Center 897 St. David's Lane Niskayuna, NY 12309  
 Margie Amodeo Coordinator Union College (518)388-7000 [amodeom@union.edu](mailto:amodeom@union.edu)  
 Hudson Mohawk Bird Club Betsy Sandberg [bsandberg782@gmail.com](mailto:bsandberg782@gmail.com) Reist Preserve Manager

**County:** Schenectady

### ***Invasive Species Present at Reist Sanctuary***

Common Name	Scientific Name	Locations (GPS)	Growth Type	Phenology	Target/Treatment
Burning Bush	Euonymus alatus	42.78946 -73.88221	Shrub	Monoecious High Seed Production / Bird	2019-2020 ?
Japanese Knotweed	Polygonum cuspidatum	42.78946 -73.88221	Shrub	High Seed Production / Fragmentation	2020?
Honeysuckle Spp.	Lonicera spp.	43.2335 -73.7141	Shrub	High Seed / Production / Bird	Manual Removal
Common Buckthorn	Rhamnus cathartica	42.7893 - 73.88211	Tree		Manual Removal
Japanese Barberry	Berberis thunbergii	42.78929 -73.88211	Shrub	High Seed Production / Bird	2019 -2020 ?
Garlic Mustered	Alliaria petiolata	42.78937 -73.88226	Forb	Seed	Removed / Monitor

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**Dominant Native Plants:** Conifer Mixed hardwoods

**Native Community Types:**

56 species of Fern, Club Moss, Horsetail, Moss, Liverwort and Lichen 280 Species, 77 families) of Gymnosperm, Dicot and MonocotR. S. Mitchell and G. C. Tucker (1997) list 3,483 higher plants for New York State. The Sanctuary thus hosts 8% of the NYS higher-plant Flora. [https://www.hmbc.net/resources/Documents/MiscPDF/Reist\\_Flora.pdf](https://www.hmbc.net/resources/Documents/MiscPDF/Reist_Flora.pdf)

**Geology**

The site's geology is underlain by a clay bed. This is covered by coarse glacial sand that has gathered into dunes and swells. Consequently, the site is quite wet in the spring, with vernal pools in the low areas. But the high ground quickly drains, carrying nutrients away, leaving, dry, nutrient poor soil. In the south end, the property becomes rather swampy, with cattails and other water-loving plants. Thus, vegetation on the site varies greatly from the soggy lowland to the dry high ground. Since the coarse sandy soils are rather poor, trees and other vegetation tends to grow slowly and remain small in size.

**Treatment Method: Mechanical/ Manual Removal**

**Summary of Work Completed:**

1. Educational Woods Walk w/ Invasive Ecology
  - 15 Direct Contacts /Participants
2. Grounds and Head Trail Removal
  - 30 Honeysuckle (ssp.) Stumps 10 Yards of Biomass
  - Oriental Bittersweet 5 Yards Biomass
  - Garlic Mustered 1 yard Biomass
  - Common Buckthorn 3 Trees

**Recommendations for the Future:**

- Restore the site with native forbs and sedges. Hydric soils  
-pine –whichhazel -iris
- Sites will be monitored bi-annually by Museum and Environmental Club
- Winged euonymus parking lot hedge should be removed by Union College Grounds Crew
- Half Acre- Japanese Knot Weed Infestation should be subject to a knotweed injection program.  
Recommendations to the Park Manager were made on how to acquire funding for such a project.

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Capital Mohawk PRISM  
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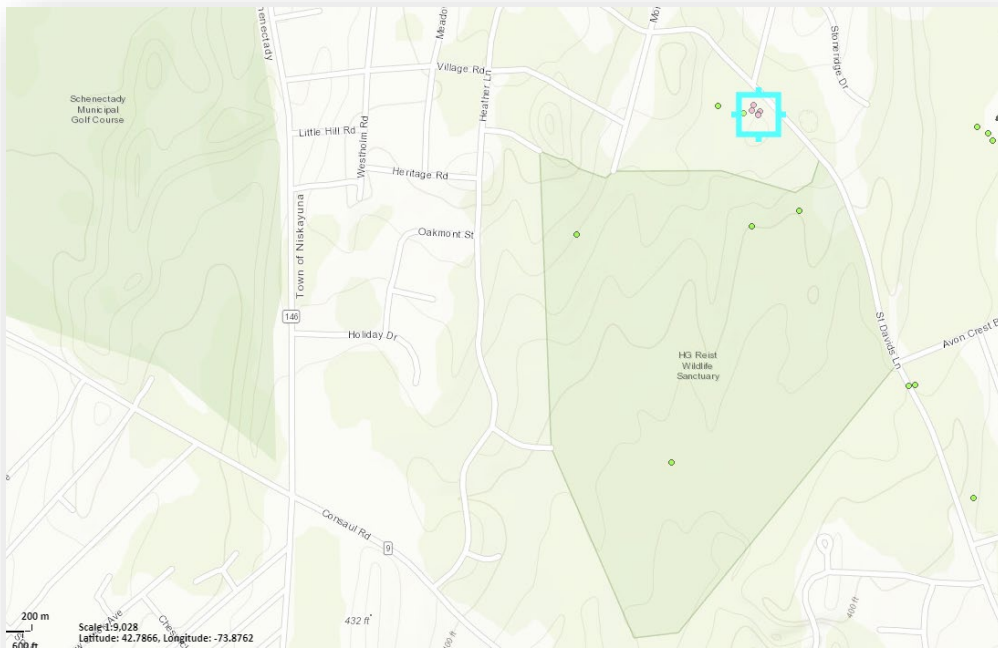
**Highly Probable Area Cleared**



**Vernal Pool**



**Volunteers**



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