

High Park Stewards

If you are in High Park on a Sunday morning, you may notice a busy group of people wearing bright yellow-green vests planting grasses, flowers and shrubs, or removing weeds and cleaning up flower beds. The High Park Stewards are volunteers who work with the City of Toronto's Urban Forestry and Horticulture staff to protect and restore the natural areas of High Park for the benefit of all creatures. They meet on the second and fourth Sunday of each month except December from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Sometimes, you will find them pulling invasive plants such as garlic mustard, hedge parsley, sweet white clover and Himalayan balsam. They also plant native species including black-eyed Susan, columbine and bluestem grasses, and collect their seeds. During the colder winter months, educational meetings are held.

In May each year, the Stewards host a plant sale where the public can purchase native plants grown in High Park for their own gardens. This important work helps to renew and sustain the native plants and, in turn, provide food and shelter for the wildlife that depend on these plants for survival.



Removing garlic mustard



Annual Native Plant Sale in May



Cutting buckthorn in the fall



Transplanting in the Greenhouse in winter

Submitted by High Park Nature Centre

For more information about this program, please visit www.highparknature.org or contact stewards@highparknature.org (all photos by Sharon Lovett)