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NATURE
STEWARDS

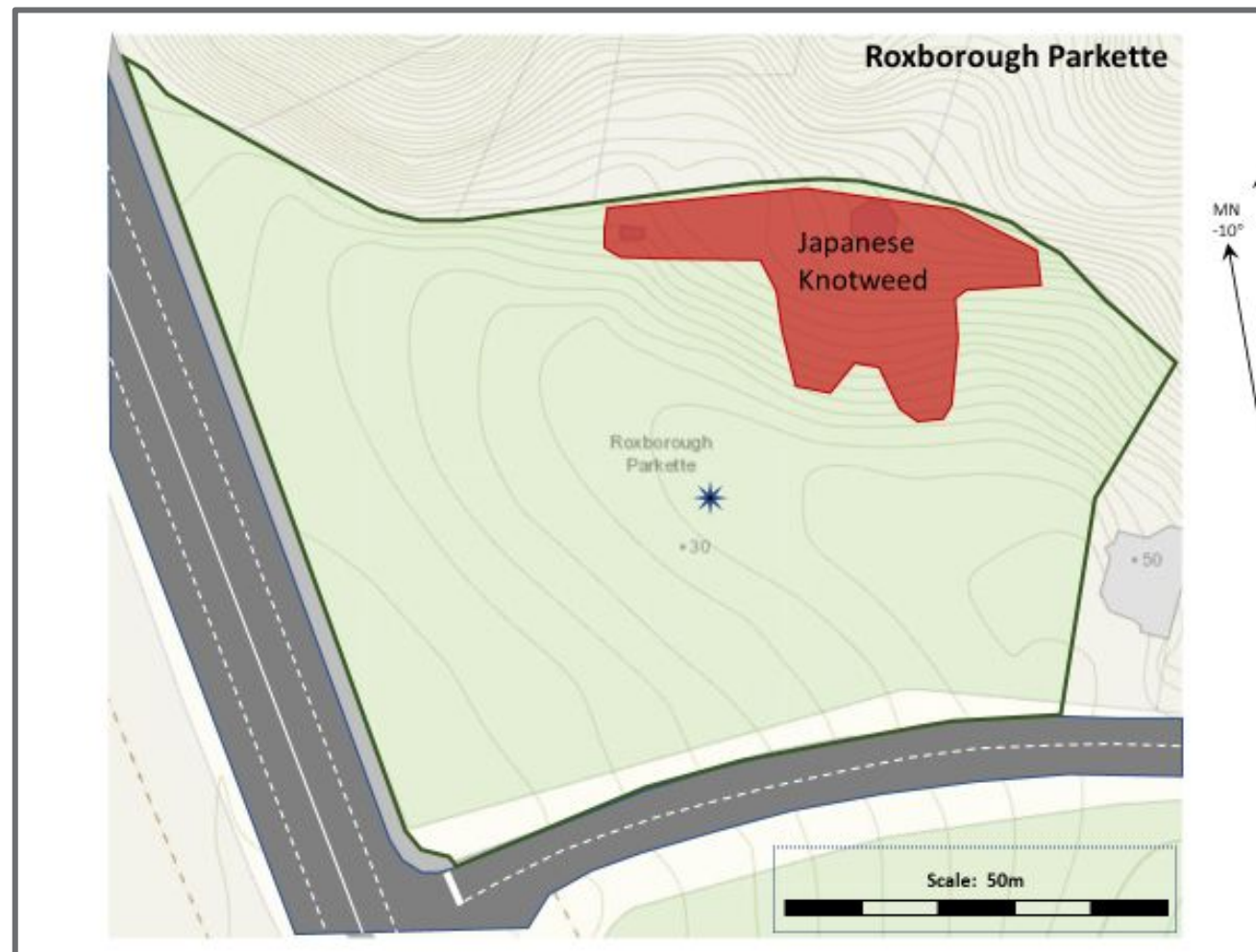
Submitted by Anna Meng May 24, 2022

Ravine Strategy Implementation Update

- “In 2021, a pilot program was launched with Toronto Nature Stewards, following City Council direction to use their Manual for Stewardship in Public Ravines and Natural Areas as a model for unsupervised volunteerism in Toronto's ravines. Through the development of key criteria for site selection, work activities, and health and safety considerations, **Toronto Nature Stewards delivered a successful program in its inaugural year through the reporting of robust key performance indicators.** At the time of writing this report, PFR and TNS are planning for a significant expansion of the program for the 2022 season.”
- Date: May 10, 2022
- General Manager, Parks Forestry and Recreation



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Invasive patch size = ~700 sq m
Total site = 9 200 sq m



Japanese Knotweed removal
Roxborough Parkette N (30 Roxborough Drive)
2021

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Before



After





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Garlic mustard removal
Roxborough Parkette N (30 Roxborough Drive)
2021

Before



After






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Planting Natives are crucial

We submitted a planting strategy in October 2021.

Herbaceous native plant list adapted from Flora Species for Entire TRCA Jurisdiction 2021



Planting Strategy

As invasive plants are removed, planting native species can be important to prevent invasive species reinvading the site. TNS proposes the following approach to planting native species at TNS sites:

Where planting will be done:

- Only second year sites will participate in plantings.

What will be planted:

- Only native plants from the [Flora Species for Entire TRCA Jurisdiction 2021](#).
- At this time, only herbaceous plant material will be planted – no trees or shrubs.
- Only seeds, plugs, or 4-inch pots will be used.
- Plants will be selected to match conditions at the site (sun, shade, moisture levels).
- No plant contributions from gardens will be accepted at TNS sites.

Where plants will be sourced:

- Plants will be obtained from known native plant suppliers who have agreed to the standards set by Society for Ecological Restoration Ontario for sourcing.

Who will plant?

- Experienced Lead stewards (with at least one year as TNS steward) will be trained in what to plant and how to plant, and how to maintain the plantings for best survival.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
1	Toronto Nature Stewards Non-Woody Planting List for Ecoregion 7E4 with L Ranks											
2												
3	Moisture: Dry, Average, Moist, very moist to wet M/W											
4	Sun/shade: Sun = mostly all day sun Sun/Semi-shade (S/SSH): dappled sunlight reaches the ground Shade: little sunlight reaches the ground											
5												
6	Look for these plants at your site - they may already be present in small numbers. These plants are indicators of the conditions and opportunities at the site.											
7	Very few herbaceous plants survive in heavy shade. They may be present but are not thriving or reproducing much.											
8	Natural, mature forests have deep shade and may have spring ephemerals but once they go dormant, few herbaceous species can be found. It can be normal for some places to be bare looking in some seasons.											
9												
10	Plants for Sun/Part Sun											
11	Common Name	Botanical Name	Moisture Level	L Rank	Notes							
12	Wild Geranium	Geranium maculatum	A	L4	will take some shade							
13	Wild Bergamot	Monarda fistulosa var. fistulosa	A	L5								
14	Evening Primrose	Oenothera biennis	A/D	L5	dry, sunny areas, waste places						excellent food source for seed eating birds	
15	New England Aster	Symphyotrichum novae-angliae	A	L5	a tough aster, great for insects						encourage to grow wild	
16												
17	Plants for Semi-Shade/Shade											
18	Common Name	Botanical Name	Moisture		Notes							
19	White Snakeroot	Ageratina altissima var. altissima	A	L5	a good spreader							
20	Woodland Sedge	Carex blanda	A/M	L5	especially good along disturbed path edges							
21	Graceful Sedge	Carex gracillima	A/M	L5								
22	Tall Enchanter's Nightshade	Circaea canadensis ssp. canadensis	A/M	L5	seeds are very fertile, part shade or light sun						encourage to grow wild, not available for purchase	
23	Honewort	Cryptotaenia canadensis	A	L5	excellent lowland forest plant for partial shade to sunny – forms a matrix.						encourage to grow wild, not available for purchase	
24	White Avens	Geum canadense	M	L5	seeds are fertile, can spread							
25	Virginia Waterleaf	Hydrophyllum virginianum	A	L5	spreads - senesces by July, returns in fall							
26	Starry False Solomon's Seal	Maianthemum stellatum	A/M	L5	forms colonies							
27	Ostrich Fern	Matteuccia struthiopteris	A/M	L5	spreads aggressively							
28	May-apple	Podophyllum peltatum	A	L5	spreads							
29	Heart-leaved Aster	Symphyotrichum cordifolium	A	L5	spreads							
30	Calico Aster	Symphyotrichum lateriflorum	A	L5	not too tall, likes trail edges						encourage to grow wild, not available for purchase	
31	Bloodroot	Sanguinaria canadensis	A	L5	do not plant 'double flower' cultivars							
32	Zig-zag Goldenrod	Solidago flexicaulis	A	L5	spreads into larger clumps							
33												
34												
35	Moist Areas / Wetland Plants - areas next to ponds or seepage areas											
36	Common Name	Botanical Name	Light		Notes							
37	Fringed Sedge	Carex crinita	S/SSH	L3								
38	Marsh Marigold	Caltha palustris	Sun	L4								
39	Spotted Joe-Pye Weed	Eutrochium maculatum var. maculatum	Sun	L5								
40	Swamp Aster	Symphyotrichum puniceum var. puniceum	Sun	L5								
41												
42												