Rose Ponds Park Progress Report:
Nov 18,2026

Summers invasive species control performed treatments on Woody invasive plants throughout Rose Ponds Park beginning in august and concluding recently this month Targeted plants were primarily invasive Asian bittersweet, honeysuckles and border privet. All three plants infestations were massive and threatening the existing flora at this location. Initially foliar treatments were applied to the bittersweet and Japanese knotweed. The foliar treatments were followed by several cut-stump applications. Some basal bark treatments were done on the privet and honey-suckle.

So far, the result of the applications seems very successful. Nearly all of the bittersweet that is strangling the parks trees appears to be dead. This is for the entire 41 acres. Treatment area for other woody plants is outlined in a map provided to the township. Many brush piles were created throughout the park and will be burned at a later date by Rose Township.

Much progress has been made on elimination of these plants from rose Ponds Park
But follow-up treatments will be essential.

Going forward it is recommended that a foliar, cut-stump, basal bark, regimen be followed again in 2027. This would include a thorough survey of park to eliminate the bittersweet. Treatment of all woody plants regardless of size. And expand treatment area to all sections of the park. A detailed price proposal can be submitted by this company in spring of 2027. Pricing should however be similar in range as this year's.
It is recommended that the Japanese knotweed which is minimal be targeted again. In addition, during treatment it was discovered that swallowwort exist in the park. This should be treated in June.

Dearborn Park has beautiful Oak Hickory Forest resting in Glacial moraines from long ago. The forest area was surveyed and tracked using onx hunt. It was treated for any existing woody invasive plants as necessary (early detection rapid response). The interior of the forest had scattered invasive autumn olive, privet multi-flora rose, honeysuckles, and minimal bittersweet. Treatment focus was largely in preventing a future infestation which would be more difficult to control. Company also cut-stump a buffer around the forested area, the area where orchids are found, an area where white spruce trees had been planted, along the trails especially near oak-hickory forest and spot treated a section adjacent to Markland and Williamson Road. The dominant invasive plant at Dearborn is autumn olive.

Going forward it is recommended that forest again be walked and treated as necessary. More spot treatment can be performed. The area around Markland Road would be a good area to focus treatments on because it has potential to be a quality area.

Rose Ponds Plant List

Trees

Black walnut
Eastern cottonwood
Sassafras
Red Oak
White Oak
Black oak
Black cherry
Sugar maple
White ash
Nannybery viburnum
Hackberry
American Elm
Basswood
White Pine
Yellow Birch
Flowering dogwood
Downy serviceberry

Red Pine (planted)
Crab apple
sweet cherry

Shrubs

Gooseberry currant
Maple leaf viburnum
Greenbrier
Juniper
Red Eldeberry
Red Osier dogwood
Gray dogwood
Silky dogwood
hazelnut
American witch hazel

Forbs

Hairy sweet cicily
Calico aster
Smooth blue aster
Wild bergamont
Goldenrods
Blue lobelia
White vervain
Wild basil
Smartweed
Nodding beggartick

Grasses/sedges

Indian grass
Penn sedge

1. Dearborn Park Plant List

Trees

White oak
Black Oak
Swamp White Oak
Red Oak
Shagbark hickory
Pignut Hickory
American Elm
Black Gum
Hophornbeam (ironwood)
Am. Hornbeam (blue beech)
Slippery Elm?
Black Cherry
Downy serviceberry
Nannyberry viburnum
Prickly ash
Yellow Birch
White Ash

Shrubs

Eastern Wahoo
Running strawberry
Spicebush
Button bush
Swamp rose
Hazelnut
Witch Hazel
Maple leafed viburnum
Gray dogwood
Red-Osier dogwood

Forbs

Poke milkweed
Horsebalm
Michigan lily
Butterfly milkweed
Goldenrods
Yellow lady slipper
Eastern teaberry
Showy lady slipper
Sphinx lady Tresses
Large white trillium
White Avens
Spring beauties
Early meadow-rue

Grasses/sedge

Woolgrass
Pennsylvania Sedge

Amphibians

Blue spotted Salamander
Eastern Red backed Salamander
Wood frog
Spring peeper