

CITF Grant Report August 2022

Solar Bench Project

As reported last month, Safety Services Director Steve Wetz recommends that we choose a spot for our bench other than the future Lock One Park site behind the armory as the start of that project has been delayed. Roger Kalter suggested placement in Knox Park near the butterfly garden, though much of that park is shaded much of the day. Knox Park has the advantage of being a highly visible site along the river trail. Janelle Patterson, a pollinator habitat volunteer, has suggested Quadrannou Park (Camp Tupper), which currently has only two benches, one along Third Street and one along Warren. That park is not as heavily used as the river trail but is also highly visible and may receive more visitors once Ohio's Hopewell mounds become a UNESCO World Heritage site. It is currently a location for peewee football practice.

Other recommendations?

Pollinator Habitat

The habitat is doing well. We do still need weeders—the soil is so good that EVERYTHING grows with abandon.

Recent Developments:

- Smothered the expansion zone at the base of the slope with cardboard and mulch. (6 volunteers, 4 non—UUs)
- Smothered the expansion zone along Fort Street with cardboard and mulch. (12 volunteers, 7 non-UUs)
- Cody Henderhan, Dylan Holdren, Linda Veraldo and I staffed an informational table for Harmar Days on Saturday, July 30.
- Using recommendations from the Soil and Water Conservation District, Mark Krivchenia and I have treated the site's poison ivy with a state-approved herbicide.
- Marietta Morning Rotary is enlisting volunteers from its membership to install a brick mowing edge along the Fort Street expansion zone. Target date: September 17. A volunteer team led by Geoff Schenkel salvaged the bricks from a building slated for demolition; they are currently stored behind Gilman Methodist Church.

