Mission: Adapting some of Grace’s Green Acres to be a wildlife habitat with productive native plants, noting:

- Traditional ornamentals are imports, non-productive for NoVA wildlife
- Turf grass (highly impervious) promotes stream erosion, almost like pavement
- Three planting areas provide native plants where before there was bare, eroded, subsoil.

For the PRODUCTIVITY of God’s Creation, Our Common Home
What do you mean, Productivity?

The Food Chain Of An Owl

A food chain shows the path of energy from one living thing to another. Decomposers like bacteria, are necessary for all food chains.
What happens where there are no native plants?

- Invasive plants from Europe and Asia spread to our parks and displace native plants.
- Turf grass and other introduced plants provide little food for insects (most of which require the plants they evolved with).
- Frogs, bats, dragonflies, baby songbirds, etc., have no food.

Stormwater rushes straight into sewers.
Stream banks are eroded.
Sediment buries eelgrass in the Bay.
Pollutants degrade water quality.
Our vision for Northern Virginia: Native plants in every yard!

Birds find food and nesting sites.

Native trees cool the environment and absorb CO2.

Butterflies reproduce on their larval host plants.

Water is captured before it hits the streams.

Wide buffers of native plants protect our streams.

Humans and wildlife thrive!
Please excuse them: They don’t all bloom for the whole summer!
‘Main’ Bed, eroded area below Middle Oak

Perennials:
• Moss & creeping & carpet phlox/Phlox subulata
• Dwarf crested iris/Iris cristata
• Woodland stonecrop/Sedum ternatum
• Common blue violet/Viola suroria
• Appalachian ragwort/Packera anonyma
• Partridge berry/Mitchella repens
• Elm-leaved goldenrod/Solidago ulmifolia
• Golden alexanders/Zizia aurea
• Tall flat-topped white aster/Doellingeria umbellata
• Whorled coreopsis/Coreopsis verticillata

Grasses, sedges:
• Bottlebrush grass/Elymus hystrix
• Indiangrass/Sorghastrum nutans
• Little bluestem/Schizachyrium scoparium

Shrubs:
• Virginia Sweetspire/itea virginica
South Ridge: Pollinator Bed, Trees and Shrubs

Pollinators:
- New England Aster/Symphyotrichum
- Common Milkweed/Asclepias syiaca
- Wild Bergamot/Monarda fistulosa
- Wildflower mix

Bushes and Trees:
- Fringetree/Chionanthus virginicus
- Witch hazel/Hamamelis virginicus
- Wild Plum/Prunus americana
- Black Chokeberry/Aronia melanocarpa
- Sugar Maple: Pray for a survivor!
The ‘Meadow,’ Eroded Bank Along South Parking

Perennials:
- Pussytoes/Antennaria plantaginifolia
- Appalachian ragwort/Pacera anonima
- Partridge berry/Mitchella repens
- Golden ragwort/Packera aurea
- Woodland phlox/Phlox divaricate
- Arrow-leafed violet/Viola sagittaria

Shrubs and Trees:
- Maple-leafed Viburnum/Viburnum acerfolium
- Elderberry/Sambucus canadensis
- Partridge berry/Mitchella repens
- American Hazelnut/Corylus americana
North Parking, Eroded Bank

**Perennials:**
- Moss & carpet phlox/Phlox subulate
- Creeping phlox/Phlox stolonifera
- Woodland stonecrop/Sedum ternatum
- Alumroot/Heuchera americana

**Grasses, sedges:**
- Muhly grass/Muhlenbergia capillaris
- Bottlebrush grass/elymus hystrix
- Indiangrass/sorghastrum nutans
- Little bluestem/schizachyrium scoparium

**Shrubs:**
- Virginia sweetspire/Itea virginica
- Maple-leafed viburnum/Viburnum acerifolium
- Wild azalea/Rhododendron periclymenoides
- Canada serviceberry/Amelanchier canadensis
- Eastern Redbud
North Lawn, along Bath St.

Perennials:
• Partridge berry/Mitchella repens
• Golden alexanders/Zizia aurea
• Horsemint/Monarda punctata

Shrubs and trees:
• Virginia sweetspire/Itea virginica
• Canada serviceberry/Amelanchier candensis
• Silky Dogwood/Cornus amomum
Questions?

Discussion: Tell us about your experience with native plants at home.