**THE FRIENDS OF WASHINGTON GROVE INC. (FoWG) 2016 WORK PLAN**

| **Category** | **Proposed Actions/Milestones** |
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| **Trail Maintenance and Stabilization; Entry Redesign** | * Participate on trial improvement and entrance redesign steering committee.
* Create a trails map based on final consultancy recommendations.
* Work with City to identify funding sources for trail and entry revitalization. Write grant proposals as appropriate.
* Schedule multiple volunteer work days to spread wood chips.
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| **Control of Invasive Plants** | * Organize and manage work parties to implement long-term plan for removal of invasive species.
* Work with Monroe County Water Authority to begin removing Norway Maples and other invasive trees from their property.
* FoWG and Forestry Dept. will identify Norway Maples for possible removal along top of Cobbs Hill Park slope and replacement of Norway Maples within Cobbs Hill Park.
* Work with City to identify and develop strategies for treating trees in hemlock grove for woolly adelgid.
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| **Planting of Native Trees/Shrubs/ Herbaceous Layer** | * Plant in Spring & Fall:
	+ Plant shrubs and sub-trees using available *Reforest Rochester* funds through City.
	+ Plant seedlings and herbaceous layer plans funds raised by FoWG.
* Experiment with protective fencing for some plantings to discourage damage by deer and other wildlife. Keep records of success.
* Consolidate a shared record of past planting locations and success rates.
* Assess status of previous plantings, and prune trees & shrubs to support healthy growth
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| **Park Visitation**  | * Continue to work with the City to strengthen protocols to effectively communicate City code and park rules related to the Grove.
* Continue to maintain kiosk at reservoir entrance to Grove.
* Structure tours to include tours for volunteers on work days, free tours through City Living program, and other paid special tours for individual clubs.
* Train interested volunteers to give tours; create tip sheet and other materials.
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| **Outreach/ Communication/ Education** | * Build on relationship with the Monroe County Water Authority to recruit assistance in, and extend, invasive removal.
* Maintain volunteer recruitment strategy that builds and sustains relationships with multiple organizations, and with Recreation Dept. Schedule work dates based on their availability and supervise volunteers. Develop strategies to attract a more diverse pool of volunteers.
* Develop a website presence with WG history, mission, etc. and to advertise volunteer work days, tours, special tour opportunities, and request donations.
* Create FoWG informational brochure.
* Complete preparation of black oak “cookie” for educational display in the Grove
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| **City Partnership** | * Meet with city officials in winter to review prior year outcomes based on goals and to gain agreement on goals for current year.
* Document and implement all contact processes related to organizing volunteer events.
* Schedule tours of the Grove for Mayor and Commissioners of DES and DRYS.
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| **Longer Term** | * Initiate mapping projects to include comprehensive record of plantings, tree survey, and City demarcation of WG legal boundaries.
* Explore collection and distribution of wildflower seeds within Washington Grove.
* Be open to special projects and recruit people to do and lead these (e.g. Eagle Scouts).
* Continue to network with other park stewardship groups, restoration groups, and interested scientists and historians.
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