

Buckingham Pond Conservancy Accomplishments 2009

Outreach & Membership

- Hosted initial organizational meeting January 2009 – 33 attendees.
- Developed volunteer Steering Committee of 10 active members
- Developed organizational mission statement and draft bylaws.
- Developed email list of almost 100 interested neighbors, and growing.
- Developed simple web site.
- Provided outreach and communication during Jack Almi's hospitalization.
- Reached out to elected representatives at municipal, county and state assembly levels.

Water Quality & Pond Ecology

- Established relationship with City Water Department.
- Developed understanding of pond's role in storm water management.
- Worked with DGS to install drainage to reduce erosion at the parking lot.
- Worked with DGS to have new "don't feed the ducks" signs installed.
- Identified Albany County Soil & Water Conservation District (ACS&WCD) as potential funding source for small erosion control projects.
- Facilitated relationship between DGS & ACS&WCD. City submitted grant proposal 12/31/2009.
- Identified statewide organization (NY Federation of Lake Associations).
- Began preliminary outreach to CSR and SUNYA looking for faculty to work on ecology studies.

Public Spaces & Safety

- Worked with DGS to replace fence at stilling pond with post & rope style fence.
- Worked with DGS to repair, repaint and re-rope fences at playground and Euclid end.
- Hosted April 18 clean up as part of Clean Albany Day, 50+ neighbors participated.
- Filled cement planters with flowers for the summer.
- Hosted November 1 Pond Preservation Day. Planted daffodil beds. Began eradicating loosestrife.
- Developed relationship with City Gardener Judy Stacey.
- Developed initial understanding of invasive species concerns.
- Developed relationship with DEC staff regarding loosestrife eradication.
- Worked with City recreation department to ensure skating signs posted and rink cleared.
- Worked with City engineering department to ensure good connection to existing pond walkways as new sidewalk was added to south side of pond.

History & Research

- Gathered documentation of history of pond's role in storm water management.
- Gathered some documentation of Pond's development.
- Gathered initial documentation of property ownership.
- Identified some initial resources for further research.