Bannockburn Pollinator Garden End of Year report (2021)

Constructed in June 2020

- List of species:

1. *Wild Bergamot*
2. *Wild Bergamot*
3. *Little Bluestem Grass*
4. *Little Bluestem Grass*
5. *Little Bluestem Grass*
6. *Wild Bergamot*
7. *Gray Goldenrod*
8. *Gray Goldenrod*
9. *Gray Goldenrod*
10. *Yellow Wild Indigo*
11. *Gray Goldenrod*
12. *New Jersey Tea*
13. *Aromatic Aster*
14. *Aromatic Aster*

About our Program

Background

- Our garden is located on Landon Lane in Bethesda and provides a case study to view the pollinator Biodiversity of the Bethesda area.
- This garden provides benefits to us and to its surrounding community. The participants of the Environmental Leaders program use this as a study tool to explore what biodiversity is and how it relates to their individual communities. The garden itself also provides the added benefit of beautifying the community around it as it grows, produces flowers, and attracts many pollinating insects.

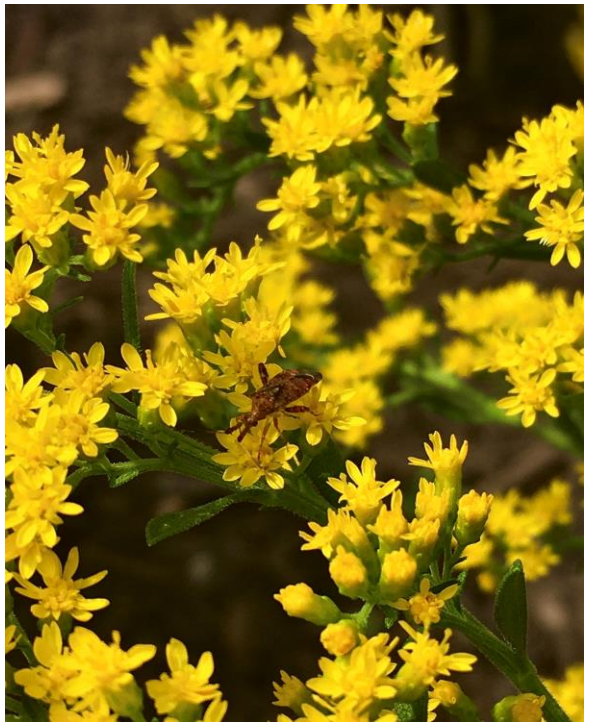
How we Collected Data, our Methodology

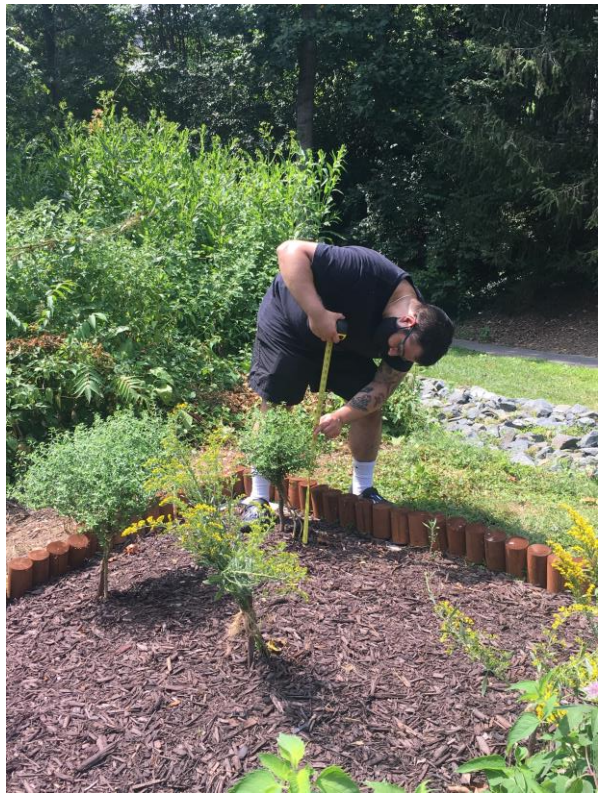
- Visual and numerical data had been collected to monitor the overall health of the garden. Every week pictures were taken of each plant as well as the height of each plant was recorded each week as well.
- The two types of data on the plants were meant to balance the limitations of the other data. For example, if a plant's height hit a plateau but the pictures showed that it was still flowering and spreading outwards, we were able to see that the plant is still growing well despite its increase in height slowing down. This data was collected from June 2020 until November 2020 through weekly visits
- All species were recorded and kept track of, including non-pollinating organisms via an excel species biodiversity log and were the key points of data in the biodiversity component of this project

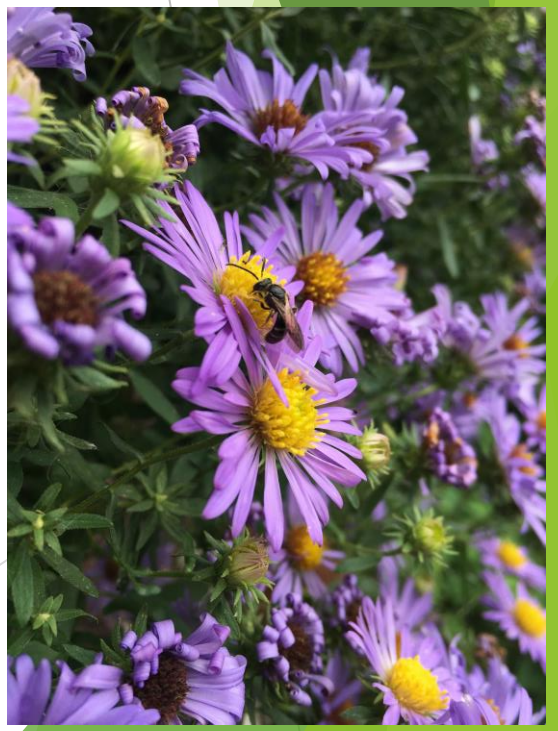
Progress in August 2020

- In August, two months after this program began the plants have grown quite a bit
- The wild bergamot and goldenrod plants were flowering and already attracted many different pollinating flies and beetles
- Other organisms like various fungi also began to appear
- The border around the garden was built in late July

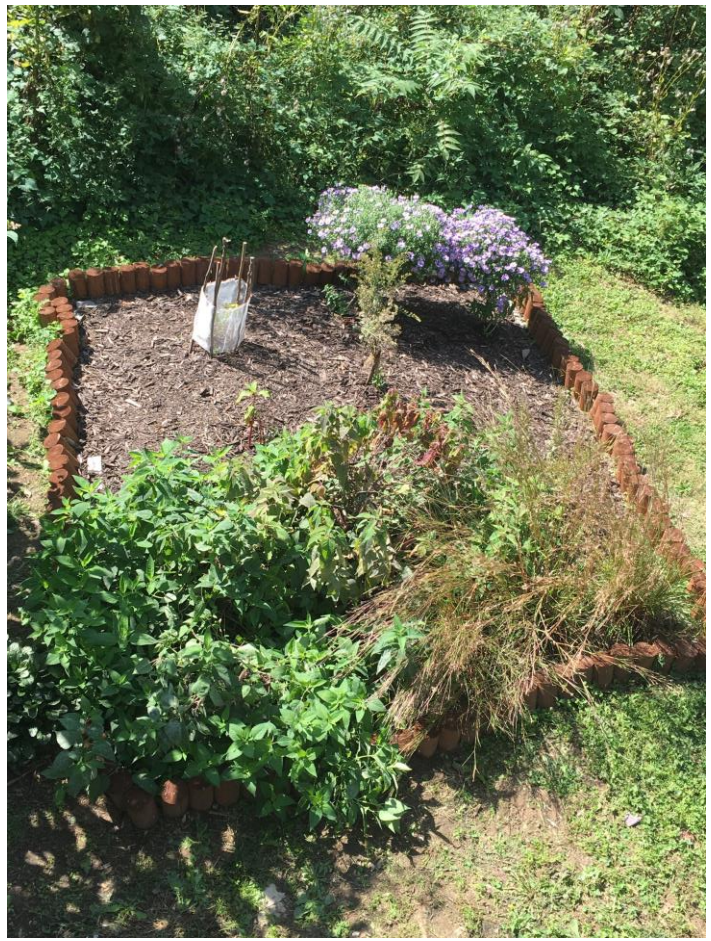
Summer Highlights



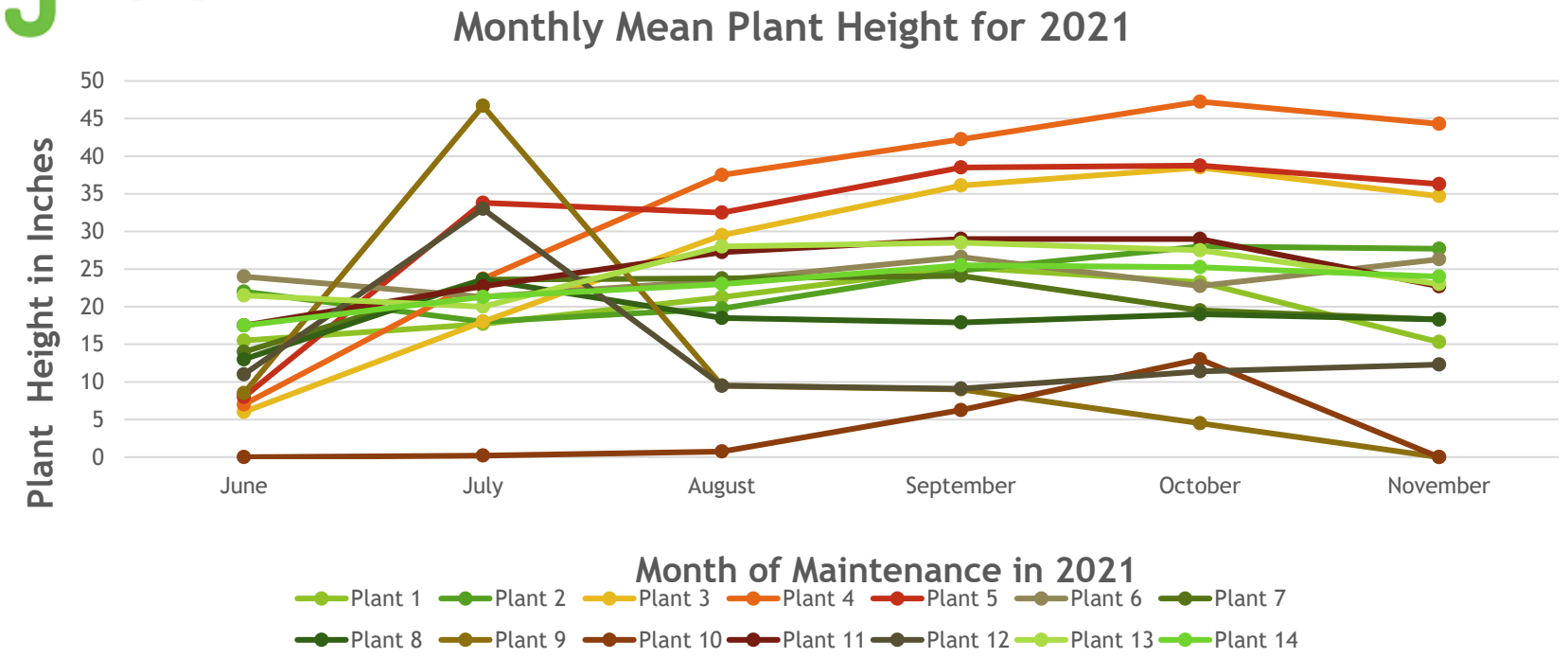




Fall/ Winter 2020



- Plants continued to grow through early to late fall, losing color in late October
- The aromatic aster bloomed bringing in the highest diversity of species
- The Environmental Leaders began collecting data
- The program ended in early November for the calendar year 2020



The overall trend of this graph is an upward trend in growth of all the individual plants and then a decline towards the winter.

The only plants that didn't make it through the summer was plant nine, both had severe damage after high growth and plant ten which didn't have much growth in general

What to Look for Next Year

- Expansion: We are hoping to expand both the number of plants in the garden as well as the total square footage of the garden space itself
- Additions to the currently established rain barrel water collecting System are being looked into in order to make the water collection system more efficient and self-sustaining
- A training video is in progress and will be available for public usage by next season
- General improvements to data collection system and housekeeping responsibilities

Contacts for inquiries

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