

# Tully Park Ecological Management Schedule

**Site Description** Tully Park is a 2 acre piece of land that is owned by the Park District within the City of Prospect Heights. Historical land survey notes , 1957 aerial topography maps and 1938 and 1960 satellite imagery indicate that the area was prairie mixed with wet prairie. Following settlement, the area was in agricultural use prior to acquisition by the Park District. The area is surrounded by homes.

Local area residents reached out to the Prospect Heights Park District and PHNRC requesting that the area be converted into a natural area. After the Park District approval of such a conversion, PHNRC has been working strictly in an advisory position to help the residents with this conversion. PHNRC has offered knowledge, resources and limited time to help the residents of Tully Park.

This Management schedule will help them to define the activities necessary for restoration of the site.

Location	Activity	Timeline	Crew	Notes
	<p><b>Selectively cut non-native grasses and other early successional species</b></p> <p>Cut low quality, non-native and early successional species to make room for the high quality prairie plants. Cut low in the first year and then 1 ft or above once seedlings have started growing to provide them with a competitive edge</p>	<p><b>Sp, Su, Fa</b></p>	<p><b>Volunteers,</b></p>	<p><b>Cut at about a foot</b> after the first year, consider plant biology when making cutting decision as to benefit perennials and discredit annuals</p>
Location	<p><b>Remove invasive woody plants</b></p> <p>Cut and herbicide or herbicide invasive woody species such as buckthorn (<i>Rhamnus</i> spp.), multiflora rose (<i>Rosa multiflora</i>), Asian honeysuckle (<i>Lonicera</i> spp.), smooth arrow-wood (<i>Viburnum recognitum</i>), Japanese barberry (<i>Berberis thunbergii</i>), honey locust (<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>), black locust (<i>Robinia pseudocacia</i>), white poplar (<i>Populus alba</i>), white mulberry (<i>Morus alba</i>), gray dogwood (<i>Cornus racemosa</i>), and winged euonymus (<i>Euonymus alatus</i>). Thin native trees including cottonwood (<i>Populus deltoides</i>), black cherry (<i>Prunus serotina</i>), ash (<i>Fraxinus</i> spp.), basswood (<i>Tilia americana</i>), hawthorn (<i>Crataegus</i> spp.), and elm (<i>Ulmus</i> spp.)</p> <p>Several herbicide treatments are appropriate depending on conditions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cut stump: apply 20-30% triclopyr (Garlon 4, Element 4) in carrier oil to cut surface when temperature is &lt; 80°F (ester formulation can volatilize and damage non-target species)</li> </ol>	<p><b>Timeline</b></p> <p><b>Fa, Wi</b></p> <p>Dormant season is preferred; The ground should be dry or frozen and care should be taken to avoid negatively impacting native vegetation, herptiles, nesting birds, and disturbing soil (avoid brush cutting especially in April, May &amp; June). Multiflora rose and Japanese barberry may be cut year round</p>	<p><b>Crew</b></p> <p><b>Volunteers, Interns</b></p>	<p><b>Notes</b></p> <p><b>Burn brush piles, cut safely</b></p> <p>Do not accumulate piles, burn no later than 1 week after cutting; cut stumps as low to the ground as possible; stack and burn brush away from wetlands and native ground layer vegetation</p>

2. Cut stump: apply 50-100% triclopyr (Garlon 3A, Element 3A, Tahoe 3A) to cut surface when temperature is above freezing
3. Cut stump: apply 50-100% glyphosate (Roundup, Rodeo, AquaNeat) to cut surface immediately after cutting when temperature is above freezing
4. Basal bark: apply 20-30% triclopyr in carrier oil to the base of stems under 6" diameter in a thick band (do not apply in spring during sapflow) use this method for smaller white poplar and black locust

**Remove invasive woody seedlings and re-sprouts**

Apply herbicide to leaves of small invasive woody seedlings and re-sprouts; spraying is preferable to cutting for white poplar. Two treatments are appropriate:

1. Apply 5-10% triclopyr (Garlon 3A, etc.) plus surfactant to leaves
2. Apply 5-10% glyphosate (Roundup, etc.) plus surfactant to leaves; use this treatment option for honeysuckle

**Sp, Su, Fa**

In spring when resprouts have reached at least 6 in. Use care to prevent harming non target species. Fall maybe ideal when native plants are dormant

**Volunteers, Interns**

**Carefully apply herbicide**  
Avoid overspray and off-target damage

**Entire Site**

**Remove reed canary grass (RCG)**

Remove RCG (*Phalaris arundinacea*); Cut flower heads of RCG where necessary to prevent seed set; apply herbicide, several treatments may be appropriate depending on conditions:

1. Apply 3% glyphosate (Roundup, Rodeo, Aqua Neat) plus surfactant to leaves during the growing season

**Remove reed canary grass (RCG) continued**

2. Apply 1-2% sethoxydim (Poast, a grass-specific UV-sensitive herbicide) plus surfactant to leaves when overcast but rain not forecasted
3. Cut flower heads where necessary to prevent seed set

**Sp, Su, Fa**

Preferred timing is in spring and fall

**Volunteers, Interns**

**Use appropriate herbicide**  
RCG near water should be treated with an aquatic-approved herbicide and surfactant.

**Remove sweet clover**

**Sp, Su, Fa**

**Volunteers, Interns**

Pull white and yellow sweet clover (*Melilotus* spp., annuals or biennials) by hand before flowering (typically beginning May-June); cut, bag, and remove flowering plants to prevent seed set. Pull first year plants any time ground not frozen; compost debris on site

**Remove lily-of-the-valley and orange day lily**

Apply 3-5% glyphosate (Roundup) plus surfactant to leaves of lily-of-the-valley (*Convallaria majalis*, flowers in May) and orange day lily (*Hemerocallis fulva*, flowers in June and July)

**Sp, Su, Fa**

Treatment most effective during flowering

**Volunteers, Interns**

**Waxy leaves**

Surfactant helps herbicide penetrate the waxy leaf cuticle

**Entire site**

**Remove garlic mustard**

Pull garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*, a biennial) by hand before seed set (typically late May-July); pull first year plants any time ground not frozen, compost piled waste in low-quality areas

Collect and distribute seeds of native plants near and within the site to improve colonization of cleared areas and bolster native populations; seed dispersal may be immediate, after a fall prescribed burn, or during the dormant season

**Sp, Su, Fa**

**Volunteers, Interns**

**Avoid trampling**

Give good instruction to volunteers and spread out groups

Try collecting in the nearby collections familiar to the commission and Tully Park residents

**Conduct prescribed burn**

The entire site should be burned frequently with one or few growing seasons in between fires. The site should be burned after it accomplishes a certain quality and good coverage of grasses that will carry a fire

**Late Fa, early Sp**

**Contractors**

**Volunteer assistance**

Trained volunteers are welcome to help

**Note:** All ecological management schedule activities are subject to advisement by the Prospect Heights Natural Areas Commission. Timing of treatments may change slightly depending on weather and phenology. All ecological management activities should follow best management practices.