

# Stewarding at Riverdale Park Apartments

Sustainability Committee Newsletter / June 2023

Our sustainability meeting was held Thursday, 6/28/23.

*Next meeting: Thursday, July 27, 7:30 pm - zoom details provided the day before.*

## General discussion topics:

There are various groups working on the beautification of Riverdale using native plants. Native plants have evolved along with insects and animals for millions of years and are vitally connected to our broader Northeastern and Mid-Atlantic regions which together maintain our local food chain. The committee agreed to focus on working with groups such as Riverdale Main Streets Alliance, Skyview Terraces Plus (terrace gardening club at Skyview), Plant Native NW Bronx, Hastings Pollinator Pathway and other local organizations to share resources and mutual support.

## Caring for our trees:

We discussed the importance of replacing trees which have been lost over the years due to storms. Riverdale is vulnerable to tree loss. This region can limit deep root systems due to the prevalence of bedrock in the geology.

The group agreed to continue learning about the types of trees we have had in the past and the best types that should replace those lost considering the needs of the ecology, the amount of sunlight, susceptibility to high winds, being mindful to consider the least costly types, of course. We plan to share information about the trees around us with the community.

## Stewarding:

The **FREE** saplings the committee obtained from The Bronx is Blooming are thriving! The watering committee and the Garden Club have dutifully nurtured and cared for them over the winter.

## Scarlet Oak sapling and Sweetbay magnolia with first bloom. May 2023

