



## Give a Day RVA—National Day of Service

Friends of Forest Hill Park participated in GADRVA on September 29th along with several hundred other volunteers throughout the Richmond area. Many people worked around the lake, pulling weeds and removing underbrush. FFHP spent their volunteer hours removing Japanese stiltgrass and English ivy from the old azalea garden. Crossroads Coffee provided muffins and coffee to the workers.



Upper left: James and Suzette clearing English ivy.



Upper right: Dave and Carolyn pulling up several yards of Japanese stiltgrass.

Right: Michael, Suzette, Dave and James taking a break to enjoy Crossroads muffins and coffee.



The final Walking History Tour of 2018 was cancelled due to rain. But we didn't want to wait until next year to share stories about Michel de Tarnowsky, Veranda Cottage, the Pulliam family, the oldest kitchen in Forest Hill and so much more so we will have the final 2018 walking tour November 10th.

Meet us at 9:30 at the Stone House to look at wonderful old pictures of the area. Matt Zipperer is our tour guide. The two hour walk begins at 10:00. The cost is \$15 per person and free to members of Friends of Forest Hill Park.

# New Native Plants for Forest Hill Park

October 18th was a perfect sunny day to move a little soil and add plants to the old azalea garden in the park. A few of the trees and shrubs that were placed last year didn't survive and the new plants rounded out the planting sites. The newest inhabitants are hazelnut trees, spicebushes and cardinal flowers. Next year, these plants, along with the survivors from last year, will put on a lovely show for park visitors.



In the photo at left, the large shrub in the foreground is a beautyberry that was planted last year. It is thriving, which is good for native fauna that enjoy the berries. The beautyberry's neighbors include a hazelnut, a redbud and a hackberry. All of the plants were purchased at Reedy Creek Environmental, a local supplier that grows only unaltered natives. Forest Hill is a natural park, so it is important to maintain a strict plant selection routine.

The young tree on the right is one of three new hazelnuts that were planted. They grow better with space around and above them, so this young tree stands alone surrounded by stones to prevent mowers from cutting it.



Three cardinal flowers joined gray gold-rod, blue mist and golden ragwort perennials in the planting area shown on the left. Expert advice from Reedy Creek Environmental provides best plant location guidance to allow flora long, healthy lives.