

RI Rivers Council,

Friends of the Moshassuck received \$1000 from the RI Rivers Council to conduct 2 projects. FOTM received \$400 for planting trees as part of the long term reforestation of the area beyond Collyer Field and \$600 for the continuation of the video project on the wildlife of the North Burial Ground.

On April 12 2014 8 volunteers with Friends of the Moshassuck convened at Collyer Field and planted 6 trees, Oaks, maples and sweet gum this year. We paid Central Nursery of Johnston \$327.00 for the 6 trees including delivery. Delivery was donated by the driver using her own truck as a way of supporting the project. We paid Earth Appliance \$50 for compost for the planting for a total expenditure of \$377.00.

Pictures and a short blog about the day are available at <http://themoshassuck.org/treeplanting.php>

Since April 12 the paths to carry water through the knotweed have been maintained and the trees have been watered as needed. The winter moth infestation was powerful this year, but all 6 appear to have made it through and are growing. There are now about 100 trees planted over the span of 15 years in this area, some 30 feet tall, and each year as the closed canopy forest expands, the knotweed recedes.

This is the second year Friends of the Moshassuck are conducting the video project. Expenditures were \$214.98 to Hunts Video for a tripod and \$385.00 to Greg Gerritt as a stipend, some of which may eventually be expended to get Greg some video editing training. Last year approximately 50 videos were posted, including a series at the end of the year highlighting a variety of the life forms in the North Burial Ground including insects, birds, and turtles as well as frogs, toads, and tadpoles.

This year videos of a Woodchuck, a Green Heron, midge larvae, and a Red eared Slider have been created and posted along with videos of tadpoles and turtles. When in doubt as to what I am viewing I have been crowd sourcing identifications, with a number of biologists

helping me increase my knowledge. All of the videos are available at the Moshassuckcritters channel on Youtube [https://www.youtube.com/user/Moshassuckcritters?view\\_as=public](https://www.youtube.com/user/Moshassuckcritters?view_as=public) So far this year 23 videos have been posted on NBG wildlife.

Several blog posts on Greg Gerritt's blog have also been devoted to this project including <http://prosperityforri.com/thoughts-on-a-drainage-swale-for-the-stormwater-coalition/> <http://prosperityforri.com/fowlers-toad-mating-calls-and-note/> <http://prosperityforri.com/the-woodchuck/>

I believe that by Mid July I will have the most extensive possible library of leg development in Fowlers Toads and will put together a video covering the development showing each increment of growth and development from tiniest newly emerged tadpoles until they hop away up the hill. The new tripod has improved the quality of the shots, and the experienced garnered last year, both in shooting and editing video have resulted in a better product. I have been able to figure out which shots I want to gather each day with the final product in mind and have a much better library of shots this year. Of course I can also see things I need to do better next year and even as i work this year, am gearing up for the next as I anticipate continual improvement, especially in the editing department.

I have also started to see Gray Tree Frog tadpoles this week and have collected some video. Shortly after June 25 it becomes nearly impossible to collect videos of wildlife in the drainage swale other than of tadpoles netted and placed in viewing containers and shortly after that it becomes nearly impossible to net tree frog tadpoles due to the dense vegetation in the pond. Video of tree frogs will be collected to the extent possible, but it is likely that once the Fowler's Toads are done for the season active field work will droop towards a rather low level so more attention can be paid to editing toad videos.

Financial report

Collyer Field Restoration

Grant \$400

Expenses

Trees \$327.00 Central Nurseries Johnston RI

Compost \$50.00 Earth Appliance compost  
innovators Providence RI

Total \$377.00

North Burial Ground Wildlife videos

Grant \$600

Expenses

Hunts Video \$214.98 Tripod

Greg Gerritt \$385.00 stipend

Total \$599.98

Total expenditure \$976.98

Submitted 6/20/14 Greg Gerritt Treasurer and Watershed  
Steward Friends of the Moshassuck