D&R Greenway Land Stewardship Internship

June 8th – August 14th, 2009

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Class: 2011
Department: Economics
Organization: D&R Greenway
Central New Jersey’s non-profit land preservation organization

Location: Princeton, NJ

Mission:
• Preserve and protect a permanent network of natural lands and open spaces, creating the conditions for a healthy and diverse environment to flourish

• Provide the public with appropriate access to these areas, encouraging active lifestyles and a greater appreciation of the natural world

• Inspire a conservation ethic promoting policies, educational programs and partnerships that result in a public commitment to land preservation
Project Aim:
  • Assist with land stewardship responsibilities and gain an understanding for its role in environmental preservation

Method:
  • Worked with Jim Amon (director of stewardship), Jared Rosebaum (associate director of stewardship), and Alex Brady ’10 on a variety of tasks:
    • Invasive species removal
    • Native plant nursery work
    • Individual Project
Invasive Species Removal

- Multiflora Rose
- Loppers
- Herbicide
Native Plant Nursery
Blue-Winged Warbler (Vermivora pinus)

**Range:** Breeds in the east from Maine to Delaware. Winters in Central America.

**New Jersey Status:** Fairly common and widespread summer resident, fairly common spring and common fall migrant.

**Migration:** The first southbound Blue-Winged Warblers can be found in early August. Numbers peak from mid to late August and few remain after mid-September. The first Blue-winged Warblers encountered in spring are usually local breeding birds arriving back on territory in late April. Most migrants move through from early to mid-May.

**Breeding Habitat:** Nests in open, second-growth woodlands, and along woodland edges.

**Diet:** Eats insects and spiders, forages in trees and shrubs.

**Conservation Status:** In northeastern New Jersey, Blue-Winged Warblers have declined as that area has become highly urbanized.
Skills Developed:

- Flora and fauna identification
- Invasive species removal and nursery related activities
- Tools

Results:

- Contributed to the betterment of many preserves in Central New Jersey
- Expanded the native plant nursery
- Implemented personal project to educate future generations
Conclusion

- Amount learned: Hikes through the woods are completely different now
- Importance of stewardship as a means of enhancing and furthering land preservation
- Difficulty because of volume
- New industry, stewards are still learning
- Need to educate

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