

## Kansas City Parks Ambassadors Work in Gilliam Park

Hundreds of volunteers have worked with the Kansas City Parks Department on about 20 workdays so far this year to begin a new effort to eradicate the invasive honeysuckle in Gilliam Park.

We have completed the first pass of the lower portion of the hill, and will now focus on the top. Once we have everything removed, we will go back to remove anything that might have been overlooked in the first pass. We've done our best to treat every stump with Tordon RTU, but as with all volunteer efforts, there are undoubtedly stumps that were missed so we will continue to revisit this site for several more years to ensure all honeysuckle is removed. Once the honeysuckle is under control, our Conservation Corps will work to establish native plants in the area.

Our KC Parks Ambassadors have been volunteering on Saturdays, we had several church groups helping out on weekdays in June, Rockhurst High School pitched in earlier this spring, and several volunteers from the Missouri Master Naturalists Osage Chapter have also helped out.

Here's a story that might help you in your write up: [Kids from around the country on a Christian mission pull Kansas City's invasive honeysuckle | KCUR - Kansas City news and NPR](#)

Finally, we invite residents to assist in this effort and to be ongoing stewards of the area. If they'd like to participate in a future workday or become a KC Parks Ambassador (volunteering once a month or more), they can email [parks.volunteer@kcmo.org](mailto:parks.volunteer@kcmo.org).