

OFEHA Beautification Committee

Mission, mandate, and first project proposal

Welcome



Our Mission Statement

The Beautification Committee works to enhance our shared spaces through thoughtful landscaping, cleanup events, and other improvements. Through small, steady improvements, we're building on past efforts while moving toward more sustainable practices—adding native plants, supporting biodiversity, and phasing out invasive species. Our work helps foster a sense of pride, care, and connection in the community.

Roles and Responsibilities

To keep our efforts organized and effective, we've outlined clear leadership roles to guide our projects and communication.

Chair - Meli Márquez

- Leads committee meetings and sets agendas.
 - Oversees project planning and progress.
 - Acts as the main liaison with the HOA Board.
 - Coordinates volunteers and encourages community involvement.
 - Ensures activities align with budget and HOA guidelines.
 - Provides updates and reports on committee work.
 - Ensure all spending aligns with committee policies and project approvals
-

Co-Chair - Jamie Foley

- Supports the Chair in all leadership duties.
- Steps in when the Chair is unavailable.
- Helps plan and manage committee activities.
- Assists with board communication, volunteer coordination, and logistics.
- Encourages participation and keeps momentum going.

Secretary - To be shared between Chair and Co-Chair (or a volunteer)

- Takes and distributes meeting notes.
 - Maintains committee records and calendars.
 - Sends meeting reminders and tracks attendance.
 - Helps with communication materials (emails, flyers, sign-ups).
 - Keeps a running list of tasks and assigned follow-ups.
-

Treasurer: OPEN ROLE

- Track the committee's approved budget and monitor spending
- Maintain accurate records of all expenses, receipts, and reimbursements
- Submit reimbursement forms or invoices through committee procedures
- Prepare brief financial updates for committee meetings or committee Board reports
- Communicate with the HOA Treasurer or property manager as needed

For feedback, ideas, or to find out how to get involved, please email us at:

ofeha.bc@gmail.com

Meeting events will be set via Google Calendar, and shared with the Communications committee, and Sam will publish on the HOA website:

ofeha.org

Why we should start using native plants and gardens

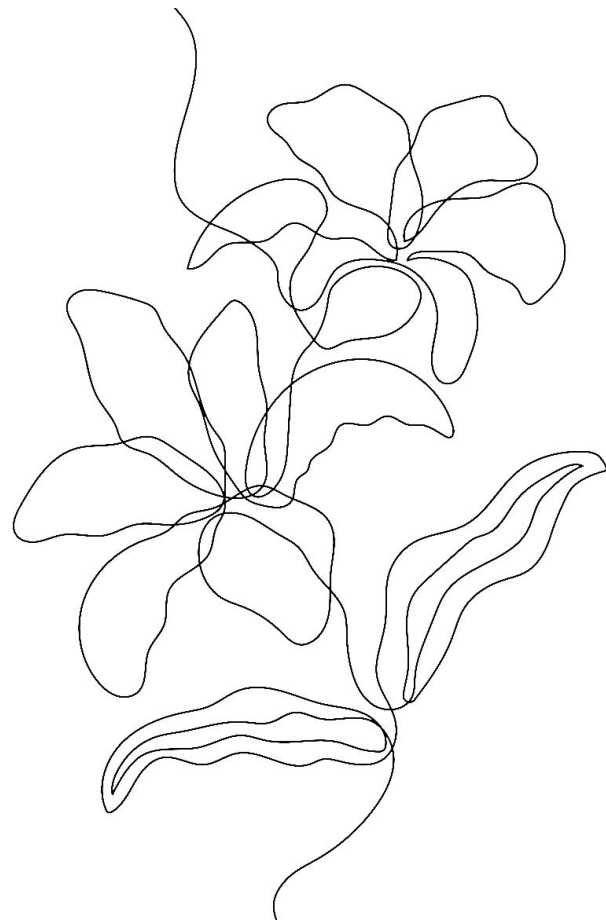
Benefits of native plants and trees

Less Work for You – Native plants thrive here naturally, so they need less watering, pruning, and upkeep

Saves Money – Reduced need for lawn care services, fertilizers, and irrigation

Attracts Birds & Butterflies – Creates a beautiful, lively yard full of pollinators and songbirds

Handles Midwest Weather – Stands up to hot summers, cold winters, and everything in between



Better for the Environment – Helps reduce runoff, erosion, and the need for chemicals

Keeps Yards Looking Great Year-Round – Many natives have blooms, color, or texture across all seasons

Safer for Kids and Pets – Fewer chemicals needed means a healthier play space

Boosts Property Value – A well-designed, low-maintenance landscape is a long-term investment

Shows Neighborhood Pride – A natural, thriving yard enhances curb appeal and community beauty

What are invasives and why we need to
work on their removal

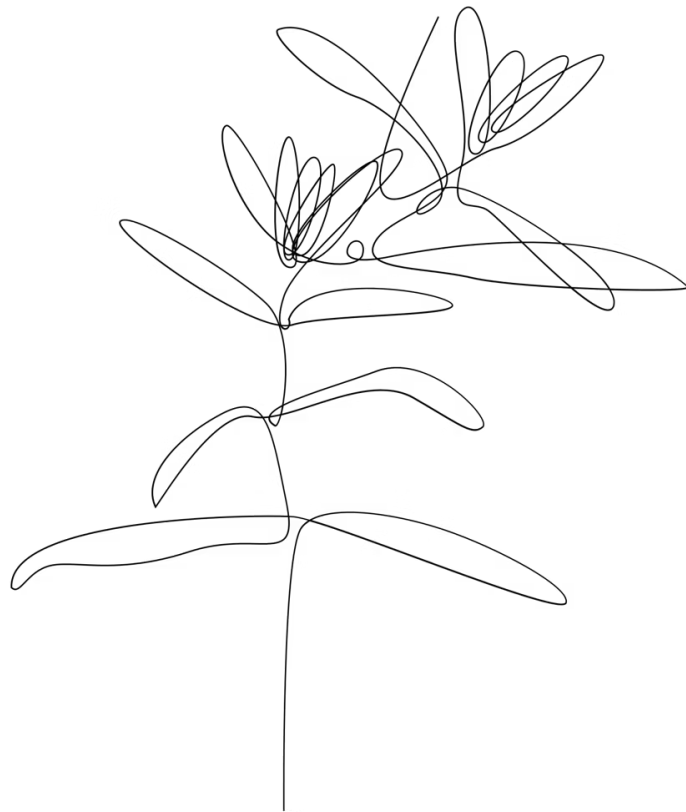
Common Invasive Plants & Why They're a Problem

Buckthorn (Common & Glossy)

- **Why it's harmful:** Grows aggressively and chokes out native plants; creates dense thickets that harm wildlife and soil health
- **Homeowner impact:** Spreads fast in yards and green spaces, making them hard to maintain

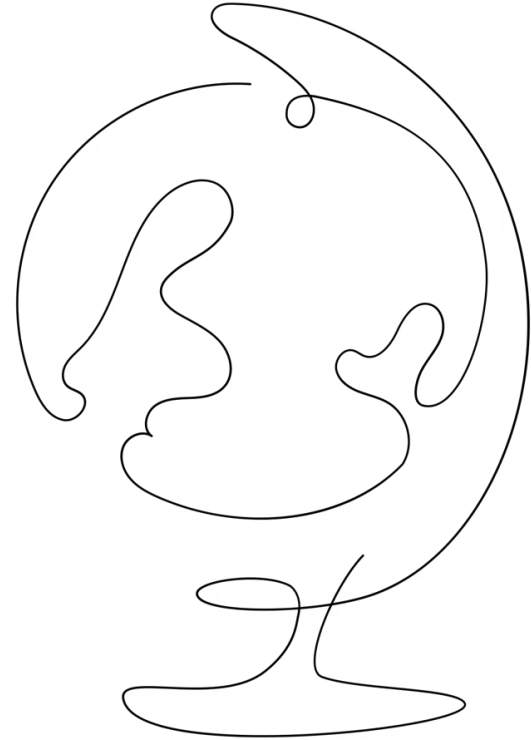
Tree of Heaven (Ailanthus altissima)

- **Why it's harmful:** Releases toxins into the soil, preventing other plants from growing nearby
- **Homeowner impact:** Grows rapidly, damages foundations and pavement with its roots



“A society grows great when
people plant trees in whose
shade they know they shall
never sit.”

-Greek proverb



Case study

Marcia Megg's Passion Project - Oakwood Dr

Case study

Diane Bedrosian Front Lawn Project - Oakwood Dr

Hand out print outs of photographs—

Discuss on a high level some of the plants and user experience

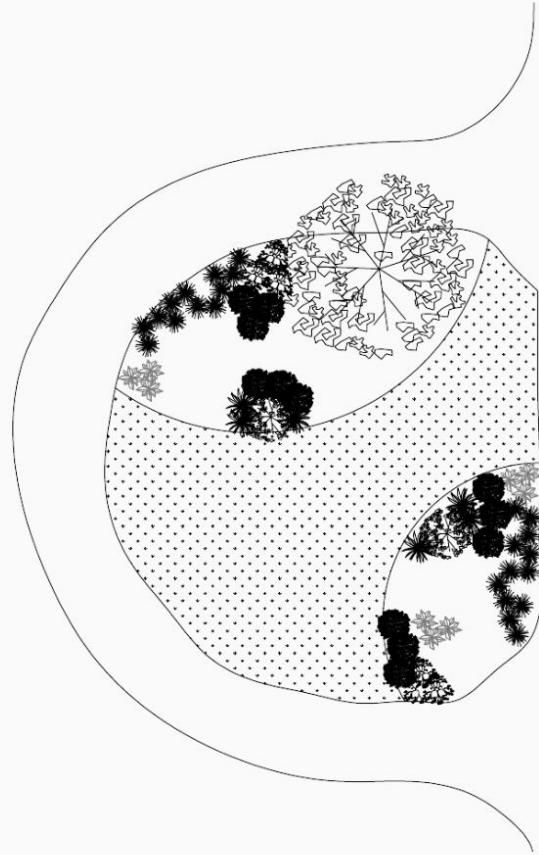
First project site proposal



First project site candidate

- No invasive species detected to eradicate before starting
- Build on what is existing, increase biodiversity and visual interest
- Availability of water (use of neighboring house hose-bib, volunteer waterers, or we contract a water supplier)

Site design proposal



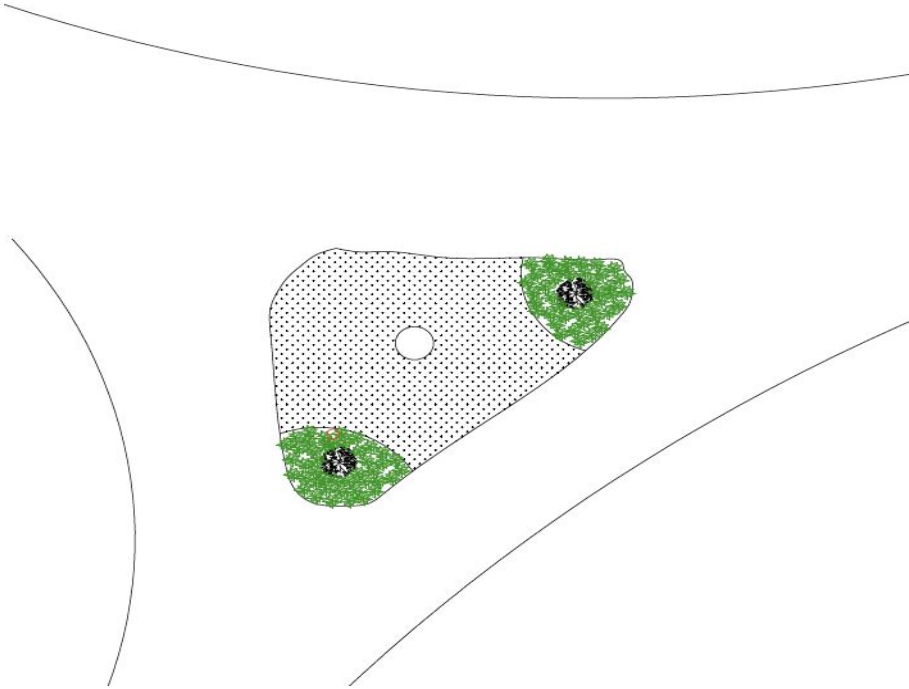
Second project site proposal



Second project site candidate

- No invasive species detected to eradicate before starting
 - Limited build on what's already there, common area for dog walks
 - Offer a dog waste station
-

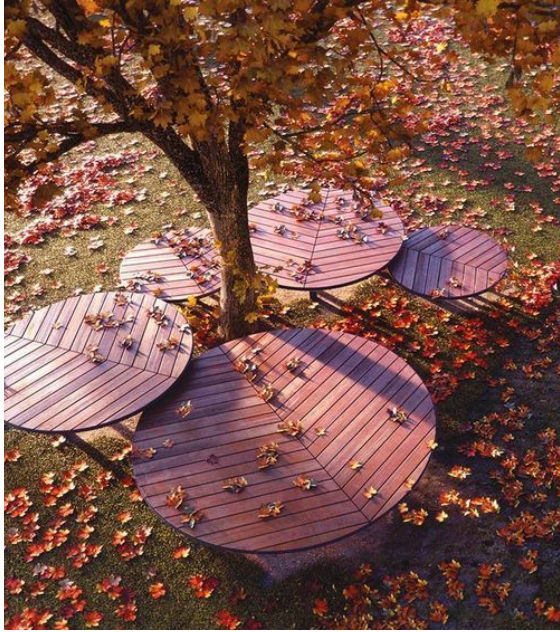
Site design proposal



Unlocking our community's potential

Some goals worth aiming for as we build momentum
(and grow our budget!)

Places to connect



Places to play



Places for our senses



Opportunities for partnership

- Re-establish a relationship with the Country Club
- Invite them to sponsor an island and use or stage as a putting green
- This may create more opportunities for the CC to sponsor/fund our future projects



Signage



THANK YOU

Please share your questions and feedback
