

Notes from St. Johns Landfill revegetation meeting, 2/2/01

Dennis O'Neil, Maurice Neyman, Janell Davis, Mark Wilson, George Kral, Elaine Stewart

Constraints faced in previous work

- Seed bank contamination
- Nutrient load (use of sewer sludge)
- Small plot sizes (e.g., 0.5 ac)
- Inadequate resources for maintenance
- Soil conditions – variable depth, compaction, etc.

Things to do differently

- Mix soil and sand layer when laying soil out
- Use different plants: forbs, long-lived grasses, oak/ash savanna, shrubs
- Set aside some areas as no-mow or delayed mow, consider grazing
- Avoid use of enriched soil, avoid fertilizer

Possibilities

- Oak or ash savanna
- Shrubs
- Herbaceous prairie/upland plants
- Remove all or part of perimeter road and revegetate

Action items

- Woody vegetation plot on temporary soil pile (from bank stabilization work). This pile will remain for 4-5 years before being moved. Plant it with woody plants of interest to determine whether they penetrate the liner.
- Keep area 5a as it is, use as nursery area for species that persist there. Consider introducing more species.
- Pursue experimental plots. Elaine to provide information to George Kral and Mark Wilson on desirable habitat types. They will recommend approaches for plots. Landfill crew can help with tilling and mowing, and can do herbicide applications (they would prefer to do it in-house rather than hire it out).

Additional points to keep in mind

- Sustainability is a Metro goal, need to move toward it
- Cannot have ponding on the landfill