

Fermilab Workday a Big Success



The March 14th Fermilab Workday drew an impressive 25 participants, with DBC members, Fermilab ecologists, and Fermilab Natural Areas volunteers wielding loppers and handsaws to clear a shrubland section of east Fermilab of trees and invasive species. “We made GREAT progress on the restoration of the shrubland,” said organizer Denis Kania, “and it seemed like everyone had a good time as there was a lot of chatter and laughter while we worked.”

The workday was part of a multiyear project to clear a 43-acre section of shrubland overrun by invasive plants like honeysuckle, buckthorn, black cherry, and others. To date, 17 acres have been cleared. The restoration effort will support habitat for Yellow-breasted Chat, Bell’s Vireo, Brown Thrasher, Yellow Warbler, Gray Catbird, and other shrub-loving species.



Work will continue until April 15th, when efforts will pause for the bird breeding season. If you have a free morning and would like to help Denis continue to restore the shrubland, message him at djkan36@gmail.com. If he has someone assisting, Denis can use a chainsaw to fell larger shrubs and trees. For obvious safety reasons, he can’t use the chainsaw solo. “While I cut, you could be hauling and stacking downed material,” says Denis, “and we can make an even larger dent in the thicket! Another DBC workday will be scheduled in the fall so watch for a notice in the Drummings.