

A photograph of two people, Tea Povolny and Michael Hudgins, working in a wooded area. They are pulling out invasive plants. The background is a dense forest with many trees and undergrowth. The foreground shows the ground with some rocks and debris.

Tea Povolny from EcoLogic and Michael Hudgins from Woods Keeper

HEALING, GREEN SPACES, AND INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

2023 PARKS AND GREENSPACE CONFERENCE

WHO WE ARE:

ECOLOGIC AND WOODS KEEPER

- We work *with* nature not against it
- Our priority is regeneration of humanity with ecology
- The solution is always **biodiversity**
- That looks like: rewilding, habitat expansion, invasive plant removal, tree cleaning, earthwork, soil amendment, erosion control, native plant installation, and more





Grant Park



Grant Park



Chastain Park





Before



Before



After

Riverwalk Atlanta

 Woods Keeper



2 years later

Riverwalk Atlanta



Fern Bank slope progress - Winter 2016 to Winter 2018



Slope below Hodgson House progress - Winter 2017 to Winter 2018











What is ECO-LITERACY?

The required information to set practical goals that will endure and be fulfilling:
nature-based solutions

- Eco-literacy: the ability to read the physical, environmental, social, economic, & political stories that provide context and shape a site over time
 - Time scales vary from minutes to hours, from to seasons to years, to eons, etc...















Riverwalk Atlanta

WHAT MAKES A PLANT **INVASIVE**

- Non-native to the ecosystem
- Introduction causes environmental, economic, and human harm
- Unusually high success: quick reproducer, thrives in disturbed ecosystems, aggressive and opportunistic grower...

















HOW NOT TO REMOVE INVASIVES

- Cutting back too short i.e., below waist height
- Misidentifying target species and removing natives
- Ignoring future accessibility
 - Ex. building debris piles too close
- Mixing debris types
- Removing too much ground cover/stabilizing species
- Setting goals/priorities without following ecoliteracy steps!









