

Community Projects Report

By Alison McNaughton and Mary Jo Foley

Perennial Planters continues to maintain the Mary Elizabeth Sharpe Park as its major community project. In 2013-2014 we held four workdays – two in the fall and two in the spring. The cleanup days were well attended by a small group of spirited volunteers, and many hands did indeed make for light work.

This year we began composting, an exciting new initiative for the park. As you all know, composting has many environmental benefits. First, it will allow us to add nutrient rich humus to the base of the many varied plants that inhabit the park, thus fostering their growth. Second, it will help to retain moisture in the soil, a critical benefit as our access to water is quite limited. And lastly, it will enable us to keep many bags of yard waste out of the landfill. We now have three separate bins full of biodegradable material, each decomposing nicely.

In closing, we would like to thank the many enthusiastic volunteers who devoted their time to help us care for this beautiful park. We couldn't have made such great progress without you. Many many thanks!