

# RESTORATION IN PROGRESS

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Monmouth County Park System is working to remove invasive species in Freneau Woods Park. This area was heavily infested with the detrimental invasive species autumn olive (*Elaeagnus umbellata*) and Callery pear (*Pyrus calleryana*). To preserve this integral habitat and the food sources our sensitive native wildlife requires, stewardship is necessary to restore healthy habitat conditions. Through a coordinated effort, Park System volunteers and staff are removing the invasive species. Future actions include herbicide applications to selectively control any regrowth of the invasives, as well as planting of native trees and shrubs to improve habitat quality.



Invasive Callery pear removal near Track Edge trail.

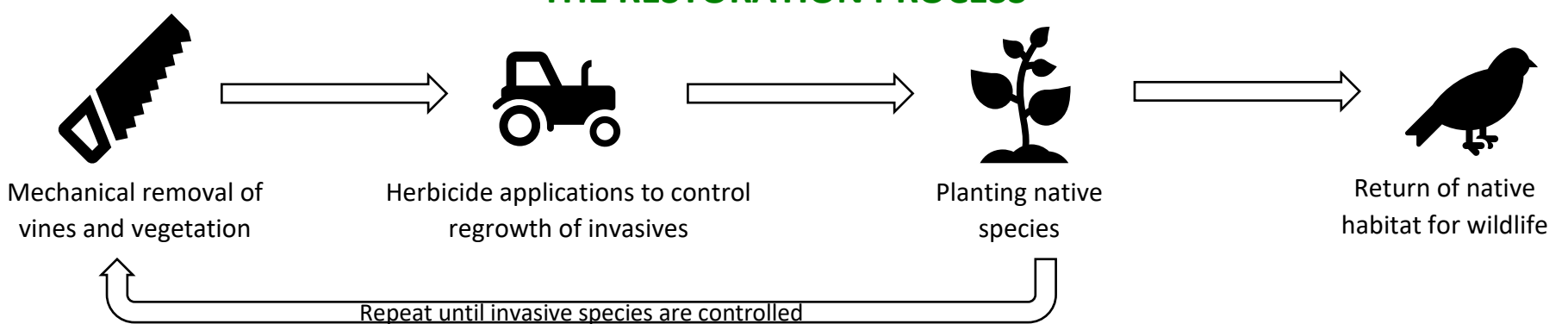
## REASON FOR PROJECT

Invasive species are plants and animals that are non-native to an ecosystem and whose introduction causes environmental harm. Invasive plant species degrade native ecosystems by outcompeting native plants for resources such as habitat, water, nutrients, and light. Native plants are important to an ecosystem because native animals depend on them for survival. In the case of autumn olive and Callery pear, these invasive species are fast growing woody plants that quickly outgrow and shade native species. While the successional growth of native trees and shrubs is a natural process, these invasive species begin to dominate the landscape and do not provide resources that native pollinators and other native wildlife require. After removal of the invasive species, native plants and animals can be restored to the area to improve habitat.

Want to **HELP**  
**BATTLE**  
INVASIVE SPECIES  
in the parks?

Check out regional volunteer opportunities at [monmouthcountyparks.com](http://monmouthcountyparks.com) to join the **Invasive Plant Strike Force!**

## THE RESTORATION PROCESS



Please excuse the unsightly conditions of this area while the restoration is in progress. Landscape restorations are labor-intensive and full results may not be obvious for many years. The Monmouth County Park System apologizes for any inconvenience throughout the restoration period but expects that the final results will greatly improve the park for both visitors and wildlife.

