Plants and Birds of Hartford’s Parks
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Park River Watershed Association
The parks that are part of this group are essential habitats of urban migratory birds traveling through the Atlantic flyway. The City of Hartford works on pilot projects to enhance and maintain habitats.

‘Hartford’s Birds- Park Habitat Revitalization and Conservation’
The three goals of this project are to enhance the natural habitat, make information about specific bird habitats available to the public, and reduce dangers and hazards encountered by “urban migratory birds.” “Habitat enhancement projects” will be carried out around a couple city park ponds by the community groups Friends of Keney Park and Friends of Pope Park. ‘Plant Palettes’ will be distributed to the community and contain information about plants that provide birds traveling through Hartford’s habitat. The project will include studies involving the hazards birds face in the city, such as “strides against glass curtain walls.”

References
http://www.nps.gov/;
http://www.parkmap.net.SQL
http://www.cityofhartford.gov
http://www.nps.gov/;
http://www.parkmap.net.SQL
http://www.cityofhartford.gov

All About Pope Park
Colonel Albert Pope donated this park made for walking, outdoor activities and fun to the city of Hartford. Designed by the Olmstead Brothers in 1898, the park was a great example of how a community could benefit from a park. Today, the park is still being used for these purposes. Unfortunately, the park has seen its natural resources dwindle down in the last 50 years. That is where the Park River Watershed Association comes in.

Original Olmstead Brothers’ Plan:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Urban Bird Treaty Program has a goal, and through these projects the Park River Watershed is aiming to reach that goal:
“works with cities and partners to conserve migratory birds through education, hazard reductions, citizen science, conservation actions, and conservation and habitat improvement strategies in urban/suburban areas” – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Urban Bird Treaty Program

Plants and Birds and the City
List of plants at Pope Park enhancing bird habitats as of September 2012

Tree:
- Quercus alba, white oak
- Betula nigra, river birch or paper birch
- Ulmus americana, elm

Fruit Bearing Shrubs:
- Clethra alnifolia, sweet pepper bush
- Cornus racemosa, gray dogwood
- Ilex galabre, inkberry
- Ilex verticillata, winterberry
- Linderia beckii, spice bush
- Sambucus canadensis, elderberry
- Symphoricarpos, Indian current/foast berry
- Vaccinium angustifolium, low bush blueberry
- Vaccinium corymbosum, high bush blueberry
- Viburnum dentatum, arrowwood

Wildflowers:
- Blue flag iris
- Asclepias, swamp milkweed
- Rubeckia

REFERENCES

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