

The Saco Ranger Station Native Plant Pollinator Garden on the White Mountain National Forest

2009 Accomplishments

In 2009, the White Mountain National Forest performed work on three native plant pollinator gardens. This work attracted a great deal of attention from the visiting public at two locations and will prove to be a unique attraction at the third.

The Saco Ranger Station situated at the eastern end of the Kancamagus Highway in Conway, NH is the most visited ranger station on the White Mountain National Forest. The final touches were put on this garden, which was largely installed last season. This year a large sugar maple was installed to replace the invasive Norway maple removed last year. The Norway maple provided a great deal of structure and shade to the former landscape, and although the sugar maple will take a few years to acquire the stature of the removed tree, it will provide the necessary shade for the developing woodland garden planting. 2009 also saw the installation of individual plant identification labels produced in 2008 (but not installed due to the harsh winters locally) and final mulching. Some filling in with additional plants of the same species already installed was completed.

In 2009, our cooperative relationship with the White Mountain Garden Club also flourished with the Club taking over a great deal of the regular weeding of the site. As anticipated the garden in its first full year attracted a great deal of positive attention from visitors and the local pollinators. District VIS staff reported that visitors continually commented on the beauty and diversity of the garden.



*Saco Ranger station garden during late summer 2009
Photo: Chris Mattrick*



*Front entrance with newly installed sugar maple (left) and wildflower plantings from rear.
Photos: Chris Mattrick*

Year Awarded: 2009
Project completion: 2009
Report number: 1 of 3
Expenditures:

- FY 2009 total funding - \$29,000
- FY2009 Saco Garden funding - \$3662.00
- Site Prep/Staff - \$1562.00
- Materials - \$2100.00

Contractors, Partners, Cooperators

- Salmon Falls Nursery
- Van Berkum Nurseries
- White Mountain Garden Club

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