

The “Friends of Brushy Hills” wonder if you are asking, **“WHAT’S HAPPENING HERE? What are all these brush piles and chopped-off vines trailing from trees?”**

The answer is:

## **THE INVASIVE PLANTS PROJECT**



Last summer, the Brushy Hills Spring House area was a dense tangle of Oriental Bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*), a vine that winds around trees and eventually smothers them. Other harmful invasive plants were hiding in the thicket, including Autumn Olive (*Elaeagnus umbellata*) and Multiflora Rose (*Rosa multiflora*).

Now that the leaves are gone (making access easier) volunteers have been clearing out these “invasives.” Our method is to cut trunks and stems and then, to prevent re-sprouting, paint the stumps with a systemic herbicide that harms only the targeted individual plant.

The brush piles are the remains of these invaders! Now you can see the trees, some that survived the bittersweet invasion and some that didn’t. And you can see into the woods, where native plants now have more space and light to grow.

**The Invasive Plants Project is sponsored by  
the Friends of Brushy Hills,  
with the support of the City of Lexington.**

**If you’d like to help, or if you simply want to know  
more, please call David Rosher at 784-8291  
or email [friendsofbrushyhills@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofbrushyhills@gmail.com)**