

Invasive Elephant Ear Removal on Banks of Lady Bird Lake



In order to improve the resilience and diversity of shoreline habitat on Lady Bird Lake, the large patch of invasive elephant ear on the north shore near the S 1st bridge is being removed and the space will be replanted with a broad array of native plants. This project will significantly increase the habitat complexity and ecological function of the site while providing a valuable educational opportunity for lake and trail users to see native plants.

This is the highest concentration of elephant ear on Lady Bird Lake. Other populations around the lake occur on steep slopes that are vulnerable to disturbance.

While the elephant ear is being dug up, mulch logs and a trash boom with skirt that sinks below the surface of the water are in place to keep sediment from washing into the lake. Removal of invasive elephant ear and planting of native plants is scheduled for March/April 2016 and the area will remain under a maintenance contract for one year after initial work is complete. Watershed Protection Department scientists will monitor and manage this area over the next five years.

What's being removed: Invasive elephant ear



What's being planted:

17 species of native plants including: dwarf palmetto, false indigo and the rare Correll's false dragon-head plus an aquatic fringe native seed mix



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