

Friends of Oakbourne News

By Tom Bare, President, Friends of Oakbourne

In a previous Friends of Oakbourne (FoO) News article, I described an old euonymus vine that over many years had established itself by encircling the lower portion of Oakbourne Arboretum's magnificent London Plane tree (the second largest tree of its kind in Pennsylvania!) located next to Oakbourne Mansion. In consulting with Longwood Gardens and Bartlett Tree experts, I received recommendations from both that the euonymus vine should be removed for the continued health of the tree. In the fall of 2019, Rick Brown and I cut out 4 foot long sections of the lower stems of the vine with the intention of allowing the vine to slowly desiccate over a year or two so that it might easily be removed without damage to the tree. It's been a little over a year and as you can see from the photo, the vine has indeed dried out and we intend to try removing the brittle remains in the spring.



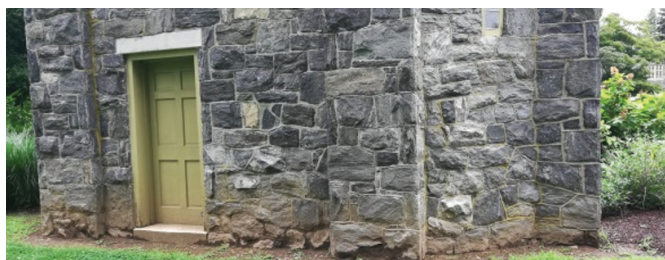
London Plane Euonymyous before the "cutting"



Euonymyous 1 year after the "cutting"

During the coming year, FoO is hoping to design and plant a garden bed that will beautify the back entrance of Oakbourne Park's water tower. The area is devoid of any interesting vegetation. A garden of various shrubs and perennials should significantly enhance the beauty of this neglected area of the water tower.

And finally, after the all of the hardships of this past year, here is a picture of what is to come this spring at Oakbourne to lift your spirits for what we all hope will be a much better year!



Back entrance of the water tower



Oakbourne Mansion in the Spring

INTERESTED IN DONATING A PARK BENCH OR TREE?

Contact Tom Bare (tmbare@hotmail.com or 610-399-1572) if you are interested in donating a park bench or tree to be planted in Oakbourne Park to honor a special person or loved one or to commemorate an important occasion.