

# Let's Get a Little Dirty— or Not at All

SUBMITTED BY FRIENDS OF  
THE GREEN BAY TRAIL

It's summertime on the Green Bay Trail. This is one of the best times for walking and biking with friends and family in our community. It's also a good time to get a little dirty (or not at all)

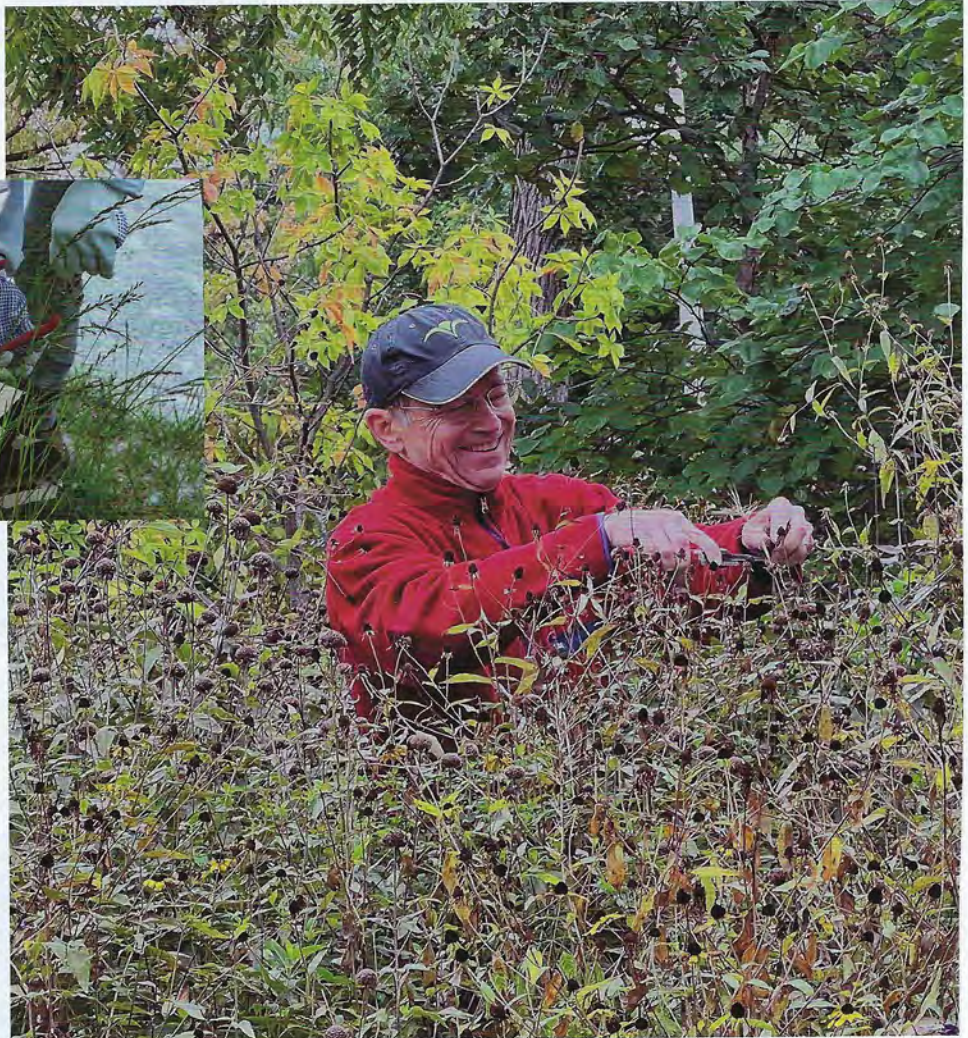
tending to the Friends of the Green Bay Trail's evolving Homegrown National Park. Well, really, sometimes just our gloves get dirty.

During late summer, many of the plants along the Trail are in full bloom, getting ready to set seed. This is the time the Friends' volunteers are preparing for the harvest. Each summer season, volunteers are nurturing the diversity of species that are growing along the Trail. Wild plants usually produce an abundance of seed and can still maintain a viable population even after we collect a few seeds. This is a truly sustainable way to acquire wild plants. Last year, Friends collected and spread 33 pounds of native plant seeds!

The Trail landscape is a work in progress. The native flowers that have been established are always under threat from non-native species. By collecting and spreading seeds, we are sustaining the diversity of native plants up and down the Trail for a healthy ecosystem.

That's where you come in! Joining with your friends and neighbors, you can be part of the fun. Come get a little dirty collecting a wide variety of native seeds. Only gloves required!

We are on the trail most Saturday mornings. We also host "seed cleaning" parties starting in September. For a list of trail days, visit the Friends' calendar at [gbtrail.org/calendar](http://gbtrail.org/calendar).



Summer flowers along the Green Bay Trail.



