



Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Activities

RPCA Pilot Update: Targeted Livestock Grazing for Invasive Vegetation Management

All Veteran's Park Slopeside
September 8th – 13th, 2026



Reminder of Project Scope



- RPCA will be engaging in a pilot test of targeted livestock grazing starting September 8th, 2026.
 - Fence went in Sept. 7th
- This pilot took place on the slopeside of All Veteran's and was estimated to take 5-10 days.
 - Goats on site for 6 days
- This program supports our Natural Resource Management Plan's invasive management strategy and science-based management goals





Progress Shots



Got Goats?



Next Steps

- Human Crew Clean Up at All Veteran's Park
 - Woody remains, feces, litter*
- Pilot evaluation report based on three metrics
- Ecological success
 - Did goat grazing remove invasive plant biomass?
 - Did it create opportunity for increased native plants?
- Operational Success
 - Was goat grazing cost-effective compared to typical invasive management?
 - What existing work would stop or change if this pilot is established as a full program?
- Community Engagement and Outreach Success
 - Are more people aware of our invasive management work?
 - Are people connecting with opportunities to get involved?





Initial Impressions

- High visibility project
 - Coverage from several news outlets
- Strong community support
 - Feedback in person and via email overwhelmingly positive
 - Several requests to have this brought to other parks
- Initial work visually impressive
 - Clear decrease in invasive biomass
 - ***Need a longer time scale to evaluate lasting benefits of project***

FOX 5 DC on MSN · 8d

Alexandria uses goats to clear invasive plants on steep slopes at All Veterans Park

Alexandria is launching a pilot program using goats to clear invasive plants along the steep slopes of All Veterans Park.



DC News Now on MSN · 7d

Goats grazing invasive plants in Alexandria as part of pilot program

City officials in Alexandria are launching an eco-friendly pilot project to clear out unwanted vegetation in local parks ...



wtopnews · 7d

City of Alexandria's newest landscapers draw an audience

A team of sheep and goats are clearing out the invasive plants at James Marx All Veterans Park in Alexandria, Virginia.



Yahoo · 25d

Why 40 goats are taking over an Alexandria park this September

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WUSA · 25d

Why 40 goats are taking over an Alexandria park this September

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Alexandria is putting a herd of goats to work to fight against invasive plants in the city. Beginning Sept. 8, the city plans to deploy 35 to 40 goats and sheep at All Veterans Park ...

FOX 5 DC on MSN · 7d

Alexandria uses goats and sheep to help battle invasive plant

Alexandria is using goats and sheep to help battle invasive plants ...



