Seed-gathering group Spring 2025

Tall Boneset (Eupatorium Altissimum) is one of the serpentine plants that germinated and grew over the winter 2023-2024 at Cylburn Arboretum, thanks to our partnership with Fig (Brent Figlestahler) of Cylburn Arboretum Friends (CAF). We transplanted many individuals of this species in and around the large meadow in Spring 2024, but they did not survive the very hot summer. About 15-20 individuals remained at Cylburn through the summer. They were watered regularly and grew quite large. We planted them in Fall 2024 at 2 locations north of the Orange Trail. On May 25 at one of those locations I observed 9 strong and healthy individuals. I'd call that a success. Finding another good spot for Tall Boneset increases the population and adds to the resilience of this species. Thanks to Fig and Rose at CAF for all their help!!

The seed-gathering group expanded its responsibilities by doing a soil depth study of the large meadow on June 12. The question to be answered was what soil depths are associated with specific plant communities. Bill Hilgartner led this effort, assisted by Dwight Johnson and Brigit Burbank. The same work group will meet again to measure soil depth in forested areas (both Virginia Pine and oak grove).

Peter Lev