

August 9, 2013

Mr. Nikolas Davis, ASLA  
Senior Associate  
Houseal Lavigne Associates  
134 North LaSalle Street, #1100  
Chicago, IL 60602

850 Forest Edge Drive, Vernon Hills, IL 60061  
TEL 847.478.9700 ■ FAX 847.478.9701

820 Lakeside Drive, Suite 5, Gurnee, IL 60031  
TEL 847.855.1100 ■ FAX 847.855.1115

[www.gha-engineers.com](http://www.gha-engineers.com)

Re: Woodridge Town Centre  
Vegetative Analysis Report

Dear Mr. Davis:

Enclosed please find the vegetative analysis conducted by our office during the week of August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013. In our site walk through we used the aerials, topographic maps, vegetative maps and a preliminary wetland report from V3 that was furnished by your office. We also reviewed National Wetland Inventory maps, NRCS soil maps and DuPage County ADID maps.

You will find in the enclosed report that we have circled general vegetative areas, and provided a corresponding description and list of the main species present within each. Please note that these areas that are outlined are approximate since they were hand drawn from field observations and aerial photography. They should only be used for approximate planning purposes since there were no instruments used for accuracy.

As a follow up we recommend that a tree inventory be done, if only for the high quality species on the site. Additionally, a jurisdictional wetland delineation should be conducted to determine the presence and extent of waters of the U.S. and/or isolated wetlands since both are regulated in DuPage County. A jurisdictional wetland determination is typically conducted from May 1<sup>st</sup> through October 1<sup>st</sup>.

If you should have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,  
Gewalt Hamilton Associates, Inc.

Irma Terry  
Senior Environmental Consultant

Enclosed: Vegetative Analysis Report  
Vegetative Zone Aerial  
Field Note Aerial



# Woodridge Town Centre Vegetative Analysis Report

**Woodridge, DuPage County, Illinois**

**August 9, 2013**

Prepared By:

Irma Terry and Caitlin Burke  
850 Forest Edge Drive  
Vernon Hills, Illinois 60061

GHA Project #4770.000

## **Vegetative Analysis - Woodridge Town Centre**

On July 31 and August 6, 2013 GHA conducted a vegetative survey that investigated and outlined dominant vegetation species groupings on two sites at the Woodridge Town Centre. The locations are approximate based on field drawn outlines. For planning purposes, high quality trees, prairie areas and wetlands/waters should be flagged and located in the field. The areas are described below:

### **1. 44 Acres**

This area consists of mowed lawn along the streets and office properties. The interior consists primarily of early successional hardwood vegetation with a buckthorn understory. Overstory vegetation consists primarily of large silver maple, box elder maple, cottonwood, black locust and American elm.

However, there are select areas of black walnut and red oak trees that are both young and mature in size that should be identified and individually located. These are high quality trees and would be of significant value to the village as native prairie species.

There is a community garden and several sections of prairie on the property as well. The prairie area (Sections 7 and 8) may have been seeded at one time since we observed bergamot, goldenrods and several higher quality species. These areas can be managed and over-seeded for higher quality upland prairie areas.

There was also a drainage swale in the north portion of the site that should be investigated. The preliminary wetland report indicated potential wetland swales in the mowed area at the north part of the property; however, based on our field investigation I do not judge these to be wetlands.

| <b>Table 1. "44 Acres" Vegetation</b> |                           |                                |                                |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b><i>Section</i></b>                 | <b><i>Description</i></b> | <b><i>Tree Species Mix</i></b> | <b><i>Size Range (DBH)</i></b> |
| <b>1</b>                              | Tree stand                | Cottonwood                     | 8-16"                          |
| <b>1a</b>                             | Overstory                 | Walnut (few)                   | 8-18"                          |
|                                       | Understory                | Buckthorn                      | <6"                            |
| <b>1b</b>                             | Single Tree               | Black Locust                   | 26"                            |
| <b>2</b>                              | Overstory                 | Black Locust                   | 6-12"                          |
|                                       | Overstory                 | Walnut                         | 8-18"                          |
|                                       | Understory                | Buckthorn                      | <6"                            |
| <b>2a</b>                             | Overstory                 | Walnuts, Box Elder             | 8-18"                          |
|                                       | Understory                | Chokecherry, Hawthorn          | <6"                            |
| <b>3</b>                              | Overstory                 | Walnut grove                   | 24"                            |

|    |                       |  |        |
|----|-----------------------|--|--------|
| 4  | Overstory             | Large Cottonwood, Silver Maple, Box Elder  | 14-28" |
|    | Understory            | Buckthorn  | <6"    |
| 5  | Overstory             | Red Oak  | 6-20"  |
|    | Understory            | Black Cherry, American Elm   | <6"    |
| 6  | Overstory             | Silver Maple, Cottonwood, Box Elder  | 8-24"  |
|    | Understory            | Buckthorn  | <6"    |
| 7  | Upland Prairie        | Walnut (scattered on edges), Goldenrod, Bergamot, Dogwood shrubs                 | 6-14"  |
| 8  | Upland Shrub Scrub    | Goldenrod, Bergamot, Honeysuckle, Timothy grass, Crab apple                      | <6"    |
| 9  | Overstory             | Silver Maple, Box elder, Cottonwood (few), Black Locust, American Elm, Box Elder | 9-25"  |
|    | Understory            | Honeysuckle, Buckthorn, Mulberry, Dogwood  | <6"    |
| 9a | Overstory (scattered) | Silver Maple, American Elm, Box Elder  | 12-25" |
|    | Understory (shrubby)  | Buckthorn, Honeysuckle, Dogwood, Black Cherry, Walnut (few)                      | <6"    |
| 9b | Overstory             | Walnut, Cottonwood, Hawthorn, Box Elder  | 8-16"  |
|    | Understory (Shrubby)  | Honeysuckle, Buckthorn, Dogwood  | <6"    |
| 9c | Overstory             | Walnuts (scattered, sizeable), Box Elder, Cottonwood                             | 10-22" |
|    | Understory            | Buckthorn, Honey Locust  | <6"    |

## 2. Hawthorne Hill Woods

This is a large wooded area with a home site and lawn in the center of the property, and several paths or trails in the north sections. The north part of the sit consists of several areas that are successional open space (Sections 13, 14, 16), suggesting that they may have been previously farmed or mowed. The species that occur now consist of shrub scrub vegetation, including buckthorn, grey dogwood, hawthorn, apple, crabapple, honeysuckle, and grasses, both native and weedy.

The central and south parts of the property consist of stands of high quality oak species, including red, white, bur and swamp white oaks. Bitternut hickory, shagbark hickory and hackberry are also present. These are high quality species, and are primarily mature and old growth in size. The understory in these areas is weedy with buckthorn and honeysuckle crowding out the native vegetation. However, there are sections with young hickories, hackberries and oaks throughout. We recommend that these trees be located and identified so that any development in this area will avoid the high quality vegetation.

There are several drainage swales and creeks or tributaries throughout this site, some with distinct banks that drain sections of the property both on and off site. These should be investigated for “Wetland/Waters of the U.S.” jurisdiction, as they may have connections to the East Branch of the DuPage River. Associated with these areas are several wet open meadows with wetland vegetation ringed by transitional trees and shrubs.

| <b>Table 2. “Hawthorne Hill Woods” Vegetation</b> |                                  |   |                         |
|---|----------------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| <b>Section</b>                                    | <b>Description</b>               | <b>Tree Species Mix</b>                             | <b>Size Range (DBH)</b> |
| <b>10</b>   | Moist Woodland                   | Red Oak, White Oak                                  | 10-32”                  |
|   | Open Understory                  | Honeysuckle, Buckthorn                              | <6”                     |
| <b>11</b>   | Wetland<br>(Ashkum soils)        | Knotweed, Clearweed, Fowl Manna Grass               | <6”                     |
| <b>12</b>   | Woodland                         | Red Oak, Ash, American Linden, Walnut, Hickory      | 8-24”                   |
|   | Understory                       | Hawthorn shrubs                                     | <6”                     |
| <b>13</b>   | Woodland                         | Small Ash, Elm                                      | 6-12”                   |
|   | Shrub scrub                      | Buckthorn, Dogwood, Box Elder, Honeysuckle          | <6”                     |
| <b>13a</b>  | Area South of bike path          | Bitternut Hickory, Cottonwood, Ash, Bur Oak, Walnut | 8-32”                   |
| <b>14</b>   | Scattered                        | Large Ash, Cottonwood, Elm                          | 14-28”                  |
|   | Shrub layer                      | Dogwood, Honeysuckle, Buckthorn                     | <6”                     |
| <b>14a</b>  | Tree stand                       | Walnut  | 26”                     |
| <b>15</b>   | Woodland                         | Red Oak, Black Cherry, Hackberry                    | 8-16”                   |
| <b>15a</b>  | Overstory<br>(High quality Oaks) | Large White Oak, Bur Oak, Shagbark Hickory          | 26-42”                  |
|   | Understory                       | Buckthorn, Honeysuckle                              | <6”                     |
| <b>15b</b>  | Overstory                        | Oak   | 8-16”                   |
|   | Understory                       | Black Cherry, Hickory                               | <6”                     |
| <b>16</b>   | Shrub scrub                      | Young Ash, Hawthorn, Buckthorn, Honeysuckle         | <6”                     |
| <b>17</b>   | Woodland                         | Mostly Hackberry, Walnut                            | 12-26”                  |
| <b>18</b>   | Swamp/<br>Wetland System         | Edged by American Linden, Oak, Ash                  | 8-16”                   |
|   |                                  | Reed Canary Grass                                   | <6”                     |





Sources:

**GHA** GEWALT HAMILTON  
ASSOCIATES, INC.  
www.gha-engineers.com



1 inch = 570  
Feet

## **Vegetative Zone Aerial**

Woodridge Town Centre, Woodridge, IL



