

**STRAFFORD STATION**  
**2012-2013**  
**FINAL REPORT**

**Committee Members who were part of our work days:**

Marge Frazier  
Ella Jackson  
Marilyn Sprague  
Polly Garnett  
Leslie Undercofler  
Laura Mitchell  
Ellie Kirk  
Alice Doering

We have had another successful year of botanical camaraderie!!! We have met every Tuesday with good weather that was not a Weeder day. Since we try to meet so many days, we do not expect everyone to be there every working day. We come when we can, and we usually have a pretty good team and accomplish quite a bit toward the beautification of Strafford Station.

This year we have continued planting shrubs and trees. Planted this year were;

- Physocarpus 'Summer Wine' lovely, dwarf form of Ninebark with purple foliage and pink flowers that we underplanted with 3 Juniperus horizontalis 'Blue Chip'
  - We also planted 2 Cercis canadensis, Eastern Redbud this spring
  - Last summer we planted two Styx japonicus
  - We also added some perennials to the corner planting at Old Eagle School and Strafford Avenues. These were planted to compliment the existing planting of Bonica Roses.
- We also tend seven planters that are placed at the base of the steps to the train platform—for maximum visibility and enjoyment.

When not planting we tend to the weeding, pruning, and deadheading that every gardener does. We do get some help from Septa as Septa does the mulching for us.

One problem this year was a car that upended one of our Bonica Rose bushes. Surprisingly enough, the bush is recovering and in full bloom as I speak. The new growth is actually setting flower buds! We also had two planters stolen last fall. Curiously, the plastic planters were taken, but the plants were thrown on the ground. The only other problem is a long lasting one: that is the weed whacking of our trees and shrubs. We are trying to minimize that by well placed stones and stakes.

We do have a good time. If you would like to join us, we welcome all newcomers!

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Doering

June 11, 2013