John Bond Park Master Gardener Beautification Project

A group of newly-certified Pamlico County N.C. Extension Master Gardeners has taken on a community project of cleaning up and beautifying the John Bond Park. We have held several work days to remove briers and other debris from the area. We planted Salt Meadow Cord Grass – *Spartina patens* (donated by the N. C. Coastal Federation) in several locations to provide erosion protection and improve the overall appearance of the area. The Town of Oriental has removed several tree limbs for us.

We are now ready for Phase 2 of our project and are in need of community support. Our plan includes building a boat planter that will bear the name “Oriental.” We are seeking donations of soil to fill the boat, compost, mulch, and paint, with paint and soil being a priority once the boat is completed and placed in the park. We have received donations of Day Lilies – *Hemerocallis spp*., as well as a promise of Muhly Grass – *Muhlenbergia capillaris*, Mexican Petunia – *Ruellia simplex*, Blackeyed Susan's- *Rudbeckia hirta,* Gladiolus - *Gladiolus communis, and Canna Lily - Canna x generalis,* for the planter. We suspect we might need other plantings to complete the garden, such as: Coreopsis – *Coreopsideae*. *Gaillardia*, Baptisia Flower – *Baptisia austalis*, etc.

If you are walking or riding past the park, please notice that clean-up has taken place and that there is a lot more work to be done.

We would be very appreciative of any help you might offer. Any monetary donations for this project can be made at the Oriental Town Hall. Thank you for your consideration.

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