The Dirty Dozen of Monte Sano” – Severely Eroded and Disjunct “Mountain” of the Cumberland Plateau

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Southern Cumberland Mixed Mesophytic Forest

This is an ecoregion west of the Appalachian Mountains in the s. eastern U.S. The forests here are incredibly diverse, often containing remnant species from the time of the last glaciations. This area was a refugia of many plant and animal species that migrated south during the glaciations.
The Mixed Mesophytic Forest
Kent Wilborn – Monte Sano State Park Manager – Entrance to Japanese Garden
Robert McClintock
Eagle Scout and
One of the 6 trailhead
signs courtesy of ALIPC
Lonicera fragrantissima
“Sweet Breath of Spring”
One of at least 4 Bush Honeysuckles
On Monte Sano
Infestations of Bush Honeysuckle at Land Trust Parking Lot
Robust Growth of Bush Honeysuckle and Wisteria
Scenic Overlook at Top of Bankhead Parkway
Look Closely to see Tree of Heaven
Tree of Heaven

Saplings
One of Many Infestations
Of Tree of Heaven on
Monte Sano—80’ tall. Will
Bloom in late May
Infestation of Tree of Heaven
In Cold Springs Natural Area
Wisteria (Chinese and Japanese)
Wisteria infestation on Bankhead Parkway—MS State Park
Volunteers battling Multiflora Rose And Wisteria On State Park Slopes
Multiflora Rose
Infestation of Privet, Bush Honeysuckle, Wisteria, Japanese Honeysuckle and Tree of Heaven
Wintercreeper

Oriental Bittersweet
Tree of Heaven
Together with
Royal Paulownia

US 431 on Monte Sano
Has many infestations
of
Both Species
Mahonia or Oregon Grape

Nandina before flowering
Japanese Barberry—regrowth since January
Possible new Listing for Alabama’s Invasive Plant List—Sweet Cherry
Bark of Sweet Cherry
--a European Cherry
Seedling of Sweet Cherry
“Prunus avium”
Chocolate Vine

English Ivy
Chocolate Vine mixed with Violets as groundcover
Trees Infested with
English Ivey
Oregon grape
Chocolate vine
So what are we doing on Monte Sano to prevent their spread??

- Conduct Invasive Species Round Up’s –twice a year
- Workshop on Invasives –at least once per year
- Work with scouts to have more Eagle Scout Projects
- Write Articles in the Monte Sano Civic Association Newsletter
- In near future—form a CWMA (Cooperative Weed Management Area Involving the Land Trust, The State Park, and Burritt Museum, as well as the Monte Sano Civic Association)