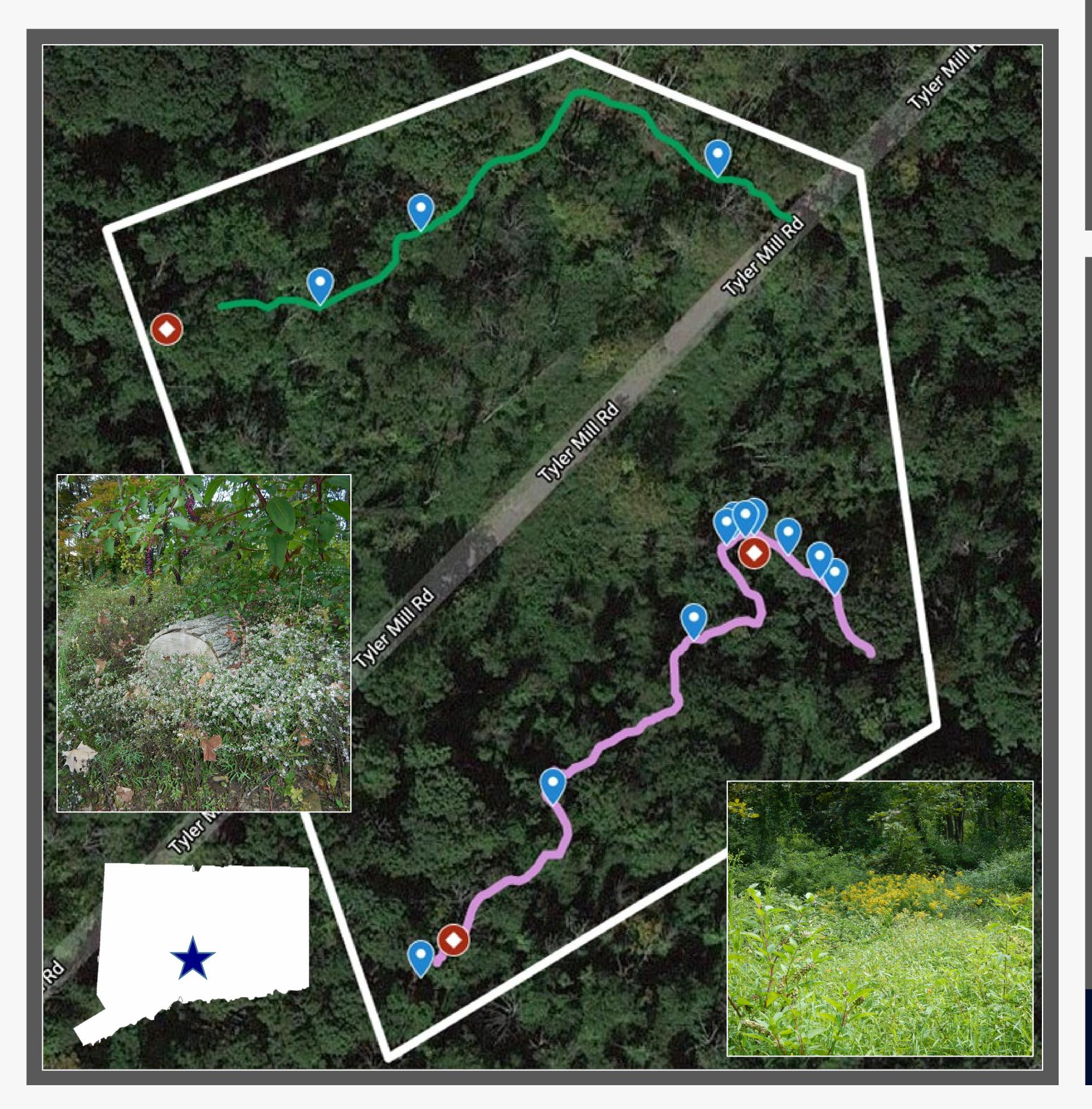
Plant Community Change Over Time in Tyler Mill Preserve (CTP)

Benjamin Motmans¹, Michael Lowit¹ & Dianne Saunders² Lyman Hall High School ² Wallingford Conservation Commission



Background

- Tyler Mill is a roughly 1,400-acre wooded preserve in Wallingford, CT
- The preserve was purchased by the town for conservation and as a future water supply
- A tornado and microburst storm event on May 15, 2018 damaged much of the preserve
- Our project documents the changes in the Tyler Mill plant community after the storm event
- Our goal was to provide the preserve stewards with information about the changes that occurred

Methods

- We documented plant succession in a section of Tyler Mill following the storm event
- We recorded a **360-degree photo** of the same area in the preserve once a month for 8 months
- We used Track-kit to map several trails and plot points of interest in the preserve
- We compiled our data into an ArcGIS StoryMap to convey the information to the Wallingford Conservation Commission

The Take-Away

- > We documented the change in the plant community following the tornado and microburst storm event
- > The damage to the plant community allowed for invasive plant species to infiltrate the ecosystem
- > We were able to take this information and share it with members of our community









