

CLARK-LANDSBAUM DEMING PARK HOLLY ARBORETUM  
Terre Haute, IN 47803 USDA Hardiness Zone 5

After three years of severe drought, the hollies were showing signs of stress with slow growth and many had signs of chlorosis. The arboretum is located in a public park. Soil testing of one of the lower areas where the plants were doing poorly indicated that the area had once been a wetland that was filled with debris containing bricks, concrete, and asphalt. Soil analysis showed a pH above 7. The plants were then treated in the spring with a blend of pelletized sulphur, ammonium sulphate, and aluminum sulphate to lower the pH.

2013 was a year of above average precipitation in Terre Haute. The main road into the park was frequently wet with water draining through the arboretum. In an attempt to correct this situation the city of Terre Haute installed a drainage system that runs through the arboretum, under the road, and into a nearby creek.

Two hollies were removed in 2013. *Ilex opaca* 'St. Mary', which had previously been transplanted due to a drainage problem, did not survive the move. *Ilex crenata* 'Sky Pencil' was planted in 2012 and did not survive the winter. There were two additions: *Ilex* 'Baltimore Blaze' and *I. opaca* 'St. Mary'.

Plans have been finalized for construction of a new arboretum entry walkway and informational kiosk. The arboretum has been mapped and this information will be made available to visitors to plan their tours. Construction is scheduled to begin during the summer of 2014.

Robert Artis, Friends of the Arboretum