Progress Report - Campus Sustainability Fund

May 2023: Sustainable Citrus Plus

Email:
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Project Manager Name:

who is submitting this project?
Grace Reinholz

Project Name:
Sustainable Citrus Plus

Project Subaccount Number:
23.02

Project Summary Snapshot:

Please copy and paste the “Summary Snapshot” you provided in your project application.

Response

Grow smart, eat smart! The Citrus+ Sustainability Project brings fresh citrus and other fruits to campus pantry using sustainable growing techniques and recycling nutrient-dense water and biosolids from our aquaponics farm.

Requested Metrics:

Please report your project’s metrics and their most recent number or response in a list format.

Response

• Variety of Trees planted: orange, lemon, plum
• Rainwater collected: 100 gallons
• # of students involved: throughout the project about 10 students have contributed to work efforts
• # of core project team members: 2
• # of hours spent on project: 50

Project Accomplishments:

Please describe what aspects of the project have been accomplished. Be as descriptive and specific as possible. Examples of accomplishments could include: Held 4 public meetings totaling 130 attendees; Transitioned 300 square feet of dirt into usable garden space and signed on 14 community garden volunteers. Other examples of accomplishments could include sharing a confirmed schedule of events, the connections/contacts that have been established, etc.
Most of this project has been completed. The rain harvesting system is up and running. This means the gutters have been installed and connected to the collection tank. We finished setting up the sump tank that holds a mixture of rain water and aquaponics effluent. We connected piping to the sewer line so the aquaponics effluent is able to be redirected into the sump. The rainwater collection tank was connected with a hose to the sump so that mixing of rainwater and aquaponic effluent could occur. All trees have been planted. Irrigation lines were initially set up but after facing some challenges, we created a new plan and need to make some minor adjustments before irrigation is up and running. Although the irrigation is not running, it is connected to the sump tank and the pump is installed.

**Next Steps:**

1. Create a plan to troubleshoot irrigation problems
2. Shorten irrigation circles
3. Increase diameter of irrigation holes so that there is better flow
4. Put in meters for each tree to monitor watering
5. Officially get the irrigation up and running!
6. Mix soil conditioner with topsoil of each tree

**Challenges Faced:**

Please identify and describe any obstacles/roadblocks you or your team have experienced, and detail how you’ve managed them/ will manage them. Should your project already be completed, please note what challenges you faced and what you would do differently.

**Response:**

Challenges we have faced is clogging in the irrigation lines and correcting flow. We have made a plan for how we can adjust the irrigation to mitigate these problems but in the meantime we have been watering trees by hand daily. Our plan to fix the irrigation is outlined above.

**Project Support:**

Can the CSF support you in addressing any roadblocks you’ve encountered? How else can the CSF support your project?

**Response:**

CSF has done a great job in supporting our project. I don't think there is anything at the moment CSF could help us with. Dr. Rex has been helping us brainstorm how to fix the irrigation troubles and those are expected to be fixed by May 12.

**Photo Upload:**

Please upload or provide links (below) to relevant photos.

**Response:**


**Photo Link:**

Please copy hyperlinks to photos here should you not be able to individually upload photos.

**Response:**

Media/Links:

Please include links to any media coverage or events information (e.g. news, social media, websites, interviews, etc.)

Response:

(Empty)