

Pollinator Equity Project - Progress Report

Email

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Project Manager Name

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Requested Metrics

This project works to implement a propagation garden at the Rincon Heights Community garden, synergizing community and student contribution.

This propagation garden hosts resilient native pollinator plants to the sonoran desert that will attract pollinators, promoting ecological systems and shade canopy on barren soil. These plants will later be propagated and donated to organizations that work to add biodiversity to front line neighborhoods particularly in Tucson, Arizona through sidewalk bump outs that can be found throughout Pima county.

The success of this project will be measured by the wellbeing of the propagation garden, density of pollinators, health of plants, soil health, thermal comfort, and existence of new propagation plants.

Project Accomplishments

Since the previous progress report we have hosted a total of 4 garden work days and a total of 6-8 volunteers for each, collaborating undergraduate students at the university and community participation. These meetings worked to complete the weed barrier, plant canopy and walkways of this pollinator garden.

We have completed the placement of weed barriers throughout, allowing for us to place our removable plant pots in all 3/3 rows that will host propagation plants. Earlier this summer meetings worked to add an additional succulent holding area in the center plot, as well as the addition of a temporary shade canopy which are pictured below.

The completion of rows in this garden can be classified by the addition of weed barrier, removable plant pots, soil and plants in pots, backfill with sifted soil topped with mulch backfill. We have completed 1/3 rows in the past meeting events, and also partially completed the remaining 2, which still need to be backfilled and have plant additions to already placed pots.

Next Steps

Backfill 2/3 plant rows
Pot succulent plants in center row
propagating the parent plants to use for the nursery
creating educational materials
building the seed library
Adding signage to the plants we are planning to donate

Challenges Faced

Challenges that we faced in the progression of this projects since our last report related to student participation consistency particularly in the months of June, July, and August. As well as timely communication and collaboration with the universities facility management team which left us to solve problems like the installation of irrigation, trenching by hand, and construction of seating area.

Project Support

CSF has previously been very supportive, assisting in working days, locating important documents and keeping communication with project managers. Although lately we have lacked communication with CSF. Support can be provided by keeping closer contact now that the semester has begun, providing reminders for upcoming deadlines, and helping assist in progression.

Photo Link

Media/Links

Plant Exchange Event Sept.13