

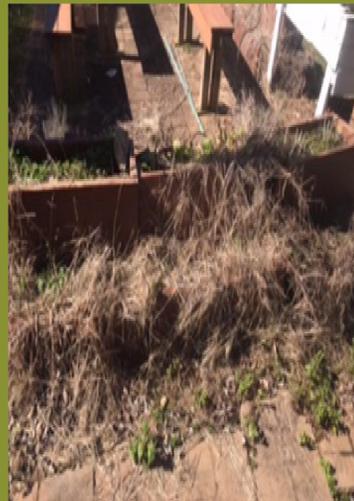
SCOPE OF DESIGN

The Food Bank of Northeast Georgia has more than 25 years of experience serving the community and currently distributes more than 11 million pounds of food to a fourteen county service area through more than 225 partner organizations every year. The Food Bank works with local, regional, state, and national product partners to bring food into the community.

Currently, the Food Bank has a small community garden on property, which allows them to distribute fresh produce along with the donations and surplus food that they regularly have.

However, the current garden situation is unable to accommodate community members who are wheelchair bound, special needs, or otherwise requiring specialized assistance. Many members of the community have expressed interest in volunteering at the garden, but are unable to due to their limitations.

The purpose of the Garden for All project is to ultimately turn the outdoor space behind the Northeast Georgia Food Bank into an accessible and inclusive community garden area and education space that keeps all aspects of sustainability in mind.



EXISTING SITE PHOTOS (NON-SITE SPECIFIC)

IMPACT ON SUSTAINABILITY SPHERES



The Garden for All Capstone team has outlined many ways that community garden are able to simultaneously become more inclusive and sustainable. These initiatives include:

MATERIALS

- Using local, renewable, low-energy input materials decrease environmental strain and support surrounding companies, however there can be conflicts with accessibility due to ADA regulations. We suggest that the food bank reserves non sustainable materials for areas where it is completely necessary or not needed (for example, under the covered tent does not have be priority for previous pavement as it is not as affected by rainfall)

PLANTS

- Use Native plants where you can. Since they are already adjusted to the climate, they do not require as much water, maintenance, or pest control
- Low-maintenance plants make it easier for people with disabilities to assist with gardening
- Plants with larger yields will allow the food bank to produce more food and provide more community members with fresh produce
- Use native plants on the surrounding food bank property to improve soil quality and provide ecosystem services for wildlife (habitat and food)

FOCUS AREA - EDUCATION

BENEFITS

- Connects people with nature and their immediate environment
- Teaches tangible and useful skills for life taught in a fun and engaging way
- Applicable and tangible learning of culturally relevant environmental education

COSTS

- Materials: upfront costs of permeable pavement is large than alternatives
- Volunteer help with installation (time)
- Professional installation (money)

COMMUNITY NEEDS

- 40% of children aged 5 to 17 live in poverty and could benefit from free fresh produce

FOCUS AREA - PLANTERS

BENEFITS

- Accessibility (ability, age)
- Usable for a multitude of produce, herbs, flowering plants

COSTS

- Materials: wood for planters, pavement for wheelchair access
- Volunteer help with construction and installation (time)
- Professional construction and installation (money)
- Space: edges of planters should be at least 36 inches apart so those in wheelchairs can safely navigate the beds

COMMUNITY NEEDS

- Fastest growing age segment in Athens is over-65, a group that would benefit from raised planters



EXISTING EDUCATION SPACE



EXISTING PLANTERS



PERMEABLE PAVEMENT



INCREASE INTERACTION!



PAST GIRL SCOUT PROJECT!



TWO TYPES OF WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE RAISED PLANTERS



EXAMPLE GARDEN LAYOUT FOR ACCESS

