

LES PARK: THE INTERNATIONAL MARKETPLACE GARDEN

In Commemoration of the Lives Lost on September 11, 2001

Upon arrival at this site, we had a vision of a beautiful garden filled with children, families, and friends. The unique character of this space already brought together many different people with many different backgrounds. In this design we decided that this was very important and developed a master plan that serves as a functional, which will bring more people together to learn, inspire, and create something for themselves as well as their neighbors. Organizing this site will enhance the functional uses and allow many activities to take place at one time. The design concept was to organize the space into various different stations that were unified by color. Edible plants as well as flowering and evergreen shrubs were selected particularly for their characteristics in foliage, flower, fruit or vegetable color and suitability to their location. This idea adds to the aesthetics of the site making it very a very cohesive design. Certain areas, such as the wet land reserve, pond area, rock garden, and waterfall, are all existing areas that are unique to this site. We decided that these areas are very important and should be highlighted. The lawn area is left as an open area oriented towards a stage, which serves as a gathering space as well as an athletic field. A great deal of the proposed hardscape consists of recycled materials such as fragments of old sidewalks. These materials will be used to construct retaining walls, as well as new walkways. Retaining walls will be incorporated to hold additional soil volume since so little usable soil currently exists. Finally, in order to qualify the site as a true Living Memorial, dwarf fruit trees were planted around the perimeter of the entire garden. Together, all of the proposed elements create a diverse and unique space that can be enjoyed by all members of the community, regardless of age, ethnicity, or social class.

BLUE STATION

What do I do here?
This station is the work and storage zone for the whole garden. There will be compost bins, a storage shed for tools and equipment, and work tables for garden projects and plant sales.

Who makes the compost?
A program and club needs to be set up to make sure that there is always enough compost for the garden. A list of the left over food that is unusable in the school's cafeterias, grass clippings from the field, and other organic material can be added into the compost bins to eventually make a really good soil.

What grows here?
All plants that are listed are not edible since this is a work area. These plants all have either blue leaves or blue flowers.

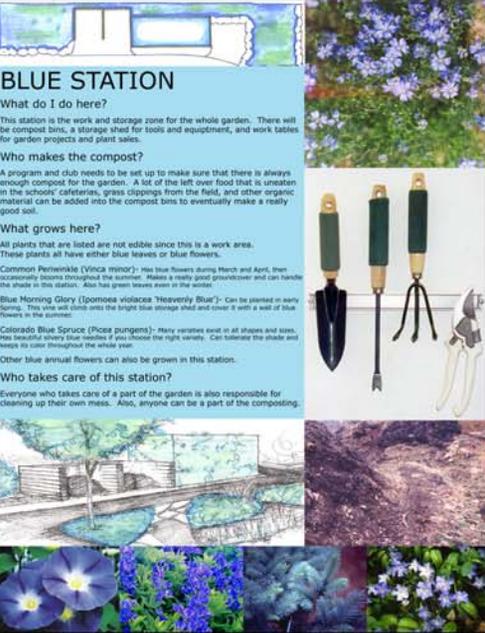
Common Periwinkle (Vinca minor): Has blue flowers during March and April, then occasionally blooms throughout the summer. Has a really good groundcover and can take the shade in this station. Also has green leaves even in the winter.

Blue Morning Glory (Ipomoea violacea 'Heavenly Blue'): Can be started in early spring. This vine will climb onto the large blue storage shed and cover it with a wall of blue flowers in the summer.

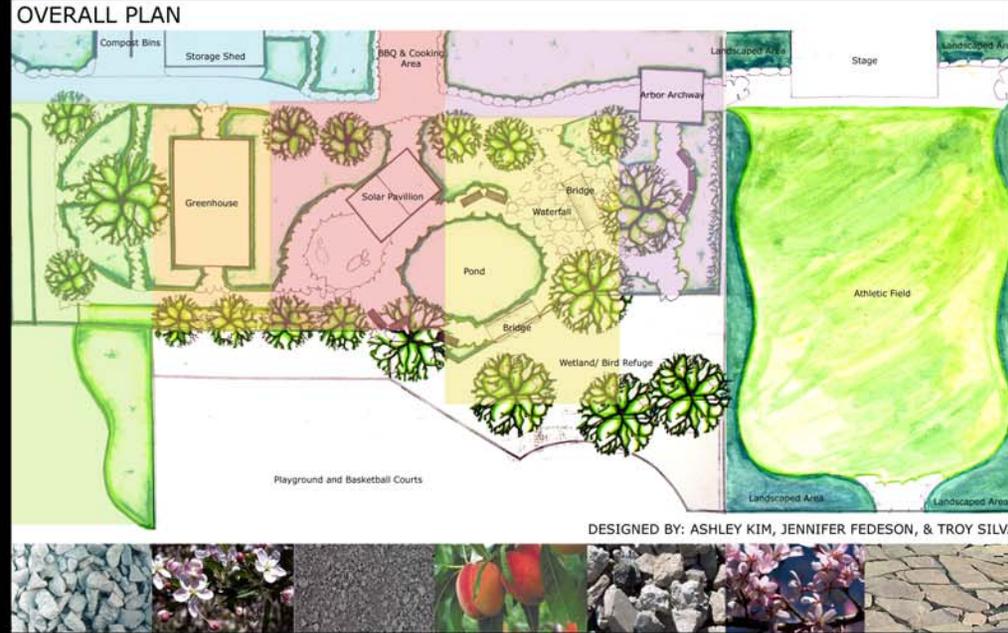
Colorado Blue Spruce (Picea pungens): Many varieties exist in all climates and sizes. Has beautiful silvery blue needles if you choose the right variety. Can tolerate the shade and keep its color throughout the whole year.

Other blue annual flowers can also be grown in this station.

Who takes care of this station?
Everyone who takes care of a part of the garden is also responsible for cleaning up their own mess. Also, anyone can be a part of the composting.



OVERALL PLAN



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PURPLE STATION

What grows here?
Midnight (Brassica oleracea var. gongylodes): This vegetable was discovered in northern Europe. It belongs to the ancient wild cabbage family, but has clearly evolved leaves which create a lump-like enlargement. Heat & frost, mild tastes similar to a turnip, makes it a purple variety that can be grown. Needs a sunny location. Plant in early spring.

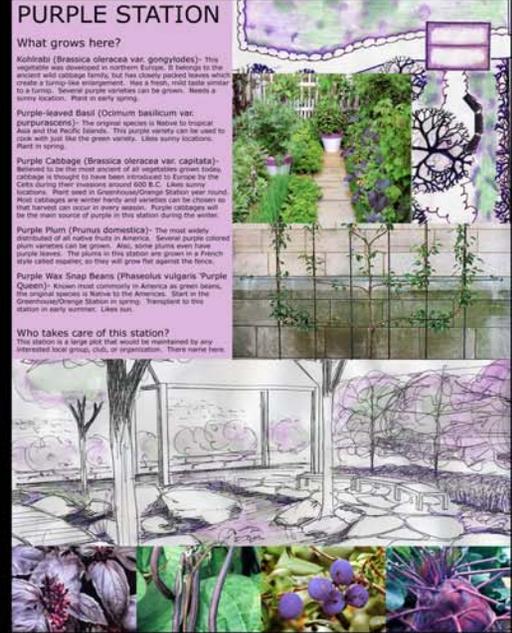
Purple-leaved Basil (Ocimum basilicum var. purpurascens): The original species is native to tropical Asia and the Pacific Islands. This purple variety can be used to look well just like the green variety. Likes sunny locations. Plant in spring.

Purple Cabbage (Brassica oleracea var. capitata): Believed to be the most ancient of all vegetable plants, purple cabbage is thought to have been introduced to Europe by the Carthaginians after their invasion of 800 B.C. Likes sunny locations. Plant used in Greenhouse/Orange Station year round. Most cabbages are winter-hardy and varieties can be chosen so that harvest can occur in every season. Purple cabbages will be the main source of purple in this station during the winter.

Purple Plum (Prunus domestica): The most widely distributed of all other fruits in America. Several purple colored plum varieties can be grown. Also, some plums even have purple leaves. The plants in this station are given in a French wine colored manner as they will grow first against the fence.

Purple Wax Snap Beans (Phaseolus vulgaris 'Purple Queen'): Known most commonly in America as green beans, the original species is native to the Americas. Start in the Greenhouse/Orange Station in spring. Transport to this station in early summer. Likes well lit locations.

Who takes care of this station?
This station is a large plot that would be maintained by any interested local group, club, or organization. There name here is:



GREEN STATION

What can I do here?
This station is for individual gardeners in the community. Several small plots of land are sectioned off so that interested community members can have their very own areas in the garden.

What can I grow here?
Anything that will grow in this area can be grown by the individual gardeners. A diverse collection of crops from all around the world is encouraged. Also, a book on how to grow different types of fruits and vegetables is available in the storage area of the Blue Station. Any other types of flowers or plants can also be grown here. The garden supervisors are responsible for creating a system to decide who gets plots of land. Since space is so limited, there may be a waiting list.

Who takes care of this station?
The individual gardeners are responsible for taking care of their own areas. However, if one of the garden supervisors feel that an area is not being taken care of, they can give the space to another person on the waiting list.



ORANGE STATION

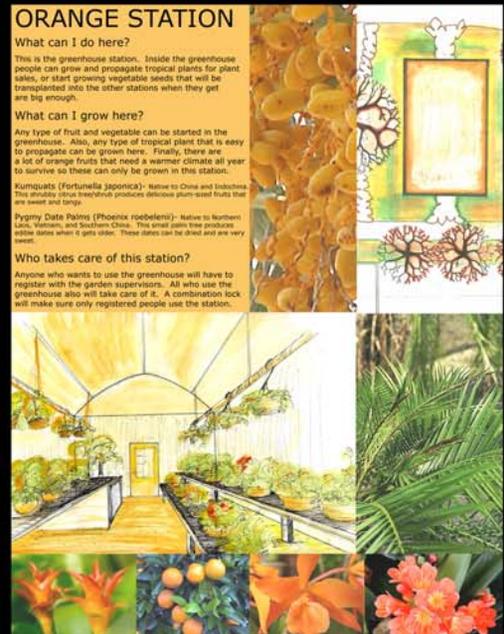
What can I do here?
This is the greenhouse station. Inside the greenhouse people can grow and propagate tropical plants for plant sales, or start growing vegetable seeds that will be transplanted into the other stations when they get big enough.

What can I grow here?
Any type of fruit and vegetable can be started in the greenhouse. Also, any type of tropical plant that is easy to propagate can be grown here. Finally, there are a lot of orange fruits that need a warmer climate all year to survive so these can only be grown in this station.

Kumquats (Fortunella japonica): Native to China and Indonesia. This smaller citrus tree produces delicious tart-sweet fruits that are sweet and tangy.

Pygmy Date Palms (Phoenix roebelenii): Native to Southern Laos, Vietnam, and Southern China. This small palm tree produces edible dates when it gets older. These dates can be eaten and are very sweet.

Who takes care of this station?
Anyone who wants to use the greenhouse will have to register with the garden supervisors. All who use the greenhouse also will take care of it. A combination lock will make sure only registered people use the station.



RED STATION

What grows here?
Raspberries (Rubus idaeus): Native to temperate North America, Europe and Asia. Can choose many varieties for fruit at different times, including just about any color.

Red Lettuce (Lactuca sativa 'Red Fire'): Native to India and Central Asia. Plant seeds right into the ground. Grow all season except during freezing temperatures. Likes full sun. Many other varieties are also available.

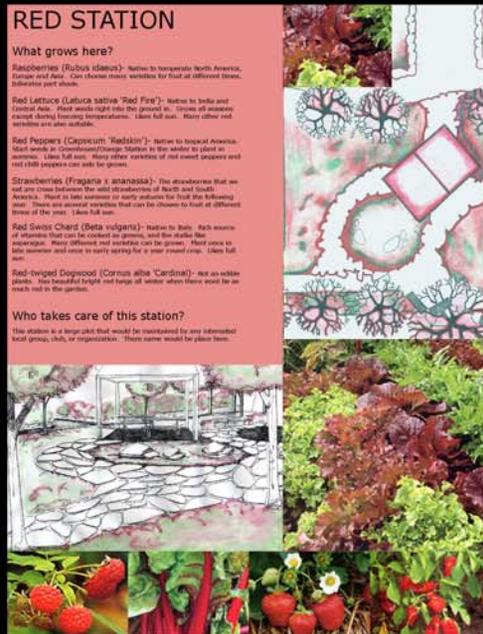
Red Peppers (Capsicum 'Redskin'): Native to tropical America. Start seeds in Greenhouse/Orange Station in the winter to plant in summer. Likes full sun. Many other varieties of red sweet peppers and hot chili peppers can also be grown.

Strawberries (Fragaria x ananassa): The strawberries that we eat are cross between the wild descendants of North and South America. There is also summer or early autumn for fruit the following year. These are sweet varieties that can be chosen to fruit at different times of the year. Likes full sun.

Red Swiss Chard (Beta vulgaris): Native to Italy. Rich source of vitamins that can be cooked as greens, and the stalks are also edible. Many different red varieties can be grown. Need once to be sown and once in early spring for a near round crop. Likes full sun.

Red-tipped Dogwood (Cornus alba 'Cardinal'): Not an edible plant. Has beautiful bright red buds all winter when there would be no much to see in the garden.

Who takes care of this station?
This station is a large plot that would be maintained by any interested local group, club, or organization. There name would be place here.



YELLOW STATION

What grows here?
Courgettes (Cucurbita pepo): Native to North America. Commonly known as zucchini, with a very important crop to many Native Americans. Many yellow varieties, often called summer squash, are suitable here. Can be grown on a trellis or in the ground, and likes sunny, moist locations. Plant after last frost.

Squash (Cucurbita maxima 'Lynchburg'): Native to Brazil. A delicious vegetable that can be prepared like spaghetti. Very hardy and can be grown from root cuttings. Likes sunny locations.

Yellow Tomatoes (Lycopersicon esculentum 'Fargo'): Native to the Andes Mountains in Peru, Bolivia, and Ecuador. Very easy to grow in the southern location. Can be grown or started in the Greenhouse/Orange Station at any time of year. Likes sunny locations. Many other yellow varieties exist.

Endive (Cichorium endivia): Originating in the East Indies. Plant seeds spring to summer. Many different varieties with green, red, curly-leaved varieties. Can be used in fancy salads. Likes sunny spots.

Yellow-tipped Dogwood (Cornus alba 'Bud's Yellow') + **Golden Willow (Salix alba 'Fraxinella')**: These are edible plants. Plant for a spectacular yellow color in the winter when there would be much to see to admire in this station. Especially beautiful in the wetland bird habitat area.

Who takes care of this station?
A large group, club, or organization in the community. Most likely one of the school groups.

