

**Darrell's Dream – Palmer Center Foundation Amphitheatre
Plantings and Rain Gardens Project Narrative
Warriors' Path State Park**

This Project encompasses planting locally native plants in the area surrounding the Amphitheatre, which is being built on a hillside behind the Darryl's Dream Boundless Playground and across from the Anderson TreeHouse. The amphitheater will host a variety of programs for all ages and will be fully handicapped accessible.

The project includes plantings on both sides of the paths to the Amphitheatre leading from the Playground and Braille Trail as well as in the areas surrounding the Amphitheatre. We will also plant the two large berms that will be installed to decrease the storm water flowing through the area. Two large Rain Gardens will be designed and installed in tandem, using suitable native shrubs, wildflowers, and grasses to capture and soak up runoff from the hillsides. All of these gardens are shown in Map 1. Map 2 shows a detailed diagram of the Large Rain Garden.

We have carefully designed and selected the locations for the Rain Gardens based on the slope of the terrain and the quality of the soil. The Common and Scientific names of all the native plants chosen, as well as the total number and size of each plant needed and projected plant costs are shown in Table 1. The plants listed will be planted in the following areas:

The Rain Gardens, one 200 sq. ft. and one 150 sq. ft
Plantings on both sides of the Path leading to the Amphitheatre
The two large Berms above the path leading to the Amphitheatre
Other areas, eg, behind the Amphitheatre, on the hillside etc.
Plants to replenish and enlarge the existing WPSP Butterfly Garden

Additional costs for soil, mulch, rock, gravel, and other supplies as well as the Total Projected Cost of the Project are listed in Table 2.

The chosen plantings of native Trees, Shrubs, and Groundcovers will serve the following purposes:

1. Beautify the area for Park and Amphitheatre visitors
2. Provide shade for visitors and spectators
3. Provide a showcase for the advantages of using Native Plants
4. Assist in reducing storm water runoff from surrounding areas that will enter the creek that runs through the Playground
5. Provide demonstration Rain Gardens
6. Increase groundwater recharge and help protect water quality
7. Help prevent erosion
8. Reduce areas of high-maintenance lawn
9. Create new kinds of habitat for wildlife with a succession of blooms providing food for native pollinators and other native insects
10. Provide opportunities for watching a diversity of birds and butterflies up close

Please let us know if you need additional information and/or have any questions.

**Northeast Tennessee UT Master Gardener Volunteers
Warriors' Path State Park Project Team**