

Tempe Community Garden Project Design Details:

1. Raised Beds (Phase 1)

Raised beds will be constructed using various materials including wood boards, composite wood boards (Trex), and erosion control straw tubes, steel. We will try to use alternative materials whenever possible, such as discarded concrete (urbanite), tires, and straw bales. The size will be variable following the contours of the site and the concrete edging along the wall.

After removing sod, a layer of Typar (weed barrier) will be installed and the raised bed will be built on top of the Typar. Paths between plots can have or not Typar and can be covered with shredded wood chips from tree company.

A series of arbors and arches will be installed in various locations in order to grow vines such as grape vines, passion vines, chayotes, luffa, gourds, etc.

2. Cactus Garden (Phase 1)

Various fruit-and pads (nopalitos) producing cactus plants, such as prickly pears (Opuntia ficus-indica and O. robusta); other fruit producing cactus to use are: Peruvian apple (Cereus hildmanianus), blue myrtle (Myrtillocactus geometrizans), pitaya (Stenocereus griseus, S. gomosus) and organ pipe cactus (Stenocereus thurberi). These will be planted in the north side of the site, along the block fence. This will also double as a deterrent to people wanting to jump over the fence and into the garden. A raised bed 4' x 10' will be constructed to plant prickly pear pads for "nopalitos"

3. ADA Accessible Garden (Phase 1)

The ADA accessible garden will be an area of 800-1000 sq. ft. paved with brick and will have raised beds for members in wheelchairs. This garden has been located adjacent to the ADA ramp next to the sidewalk to allow for easy access. The existing area needs to be backfilled with fill dirt and sloped toward the W side in order to accomplish ADA code. This will be communicated with the Herb Garden, which will be the transition to the main path.

Raised beds will be built out of wood and composite Trex. Several tall containers will also be used to grow some vegetables. Vines will be grown on trellises bolted on boxes. The space between beds will be no less than 4 ft wide and the slope will be graded according to ADA codes. Although this is the area destined to be fully wheelchair accessible, most of the garden will be also accessible through the main path, which will be covered of decomposed granite with binding agent. Members in wheelchairs will be able to "stroll" through most of the garden.

4. Compost Area (Phase 1)

A composting area featuring multiple forms of composting to educate community members about various ways to compost their waste. It will include the basic compost pile in the ground, wire mesh bins, discarded wooden pallets, wooden disassembling bins, commercial plastic bins, tumblers and worm box (Vermiculture). Some of this bins will be built by members and some will be purchased.

5. Herb Garden (Phase 2)

A collection of culinary and scented herbs, such as sage, rosemary, cilantro, dill, basil, etc. The herb garden will be adjacent to the ADA Accessible Garden and will be considered as an extension of this and it will include raised beds, some of them wheelchair accessible. A portion of this garden will be contoured with clean fill dirt and sandy loam mix. The mounds will be complemented with surface select boulders and the edges will be lined with rocks. Herbs will be grouped according to uses, textures, colors, fragrances, shapes, etc. This garden intends to teach members and visitors about uses as well as become a real experience for other senses: olfactory, tactile, etc.

6. Central Meeting Area (Phase 1)

This will be a community gathering area complete with removable chairs or benches. The space will be used for educating large groups, meetings, and community barbecues. It should seat a minimum of 30-40 members.

Initially can be left with the existing grass and can be irrigated with flood irrigation. Mowing will be done by members every 2 weeks. A metal edging steel bar can be installed to define the area and contain the grass.

It will be located under the tree canopy, to provide shade during the meetings.

7. Outdoor Kitchen (Phase 3)

An outdoor cooking space will be used to teach community members how to cook healthy foods using their produce from the garden. We envision having a gas range and gas grill hooked to a couple of propane tanks. The unit can be built with block or metal studs and backing board covered with stucco or tile. The counter top can be made of poured, concrete with dye. Water will be installed to wash vegetables in a stainless steel sink. Gas range, grill and sink will be stainless steel. The unit will face the gathering area.

8. SRP Box Meeting Area (Phase 3)

The SRP water box will be turned into a colorful art piece, and will be the center of a place for community members to meet and relax in the garden. It will include benches around the box and colorful plantings and small patio trees in the corners to provide shade.

9. Fruit Trees (Phase 2)

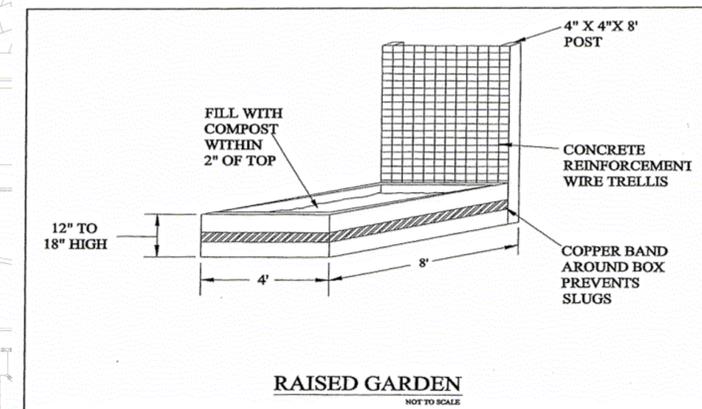
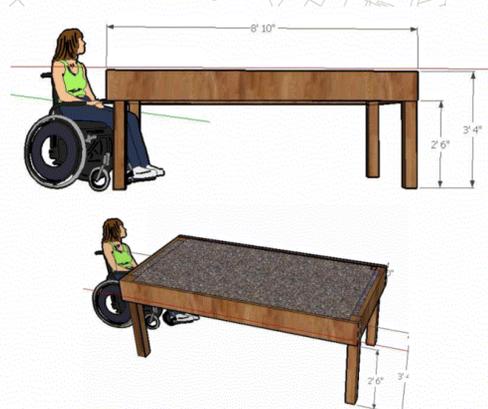
This will be an area for various fruit producing trees to grow, such as fig and lime trees. Fruit trees will be planted in the E side, as well as in various locations throughout the garden. Some dwarf trees will be planted in large pots.

10. Flower Beds (Phase 2)

Various flower beds along the perimeter of the garden that will attract pollinators and beneficial insects as well as beautify the space. We will remove the grass and do some contouring of the planting beds to increase the amount of fertile soil. Irrigation of these beds will be using drip irrigation.

11. Nursery and Greenhouse (Phase 3)

A small area in the north side has been designated for a nursery and eventually a greenhouse. The greenhouse will be used to propagate and start vegetables to be planted in the plots. The minimum size is 15' x 20' with benches in the inside, fan, and vents on sides and top. Holding area for potted plants requires a woven polyethylene liner as a weed barrier. Pots are placed in rows on top of the liner.



Escalante Community Garden

Escalante Community Center
2150 East Orange Street
Tempe, AZ 85281

SCALE: 1" = 20'



92'-5"