

SITE CONTEXT PLAN

Tyler Arboretum is located in Media, Delaware County, Pennsylvania. The property consists of 657-acres of plant collections, heritage and champion trees, historic buildings, and 17 miles of hiking trails. The project site sits along the park boundary.

EDIBLE GARDEN 1.25-ACRES

RIDLEY CREEK STATE PARK

Site Boundary

NATURE PLAY AREA

VEGETABLE GARDEN

CLASSROOM BUILDING & TERRACES

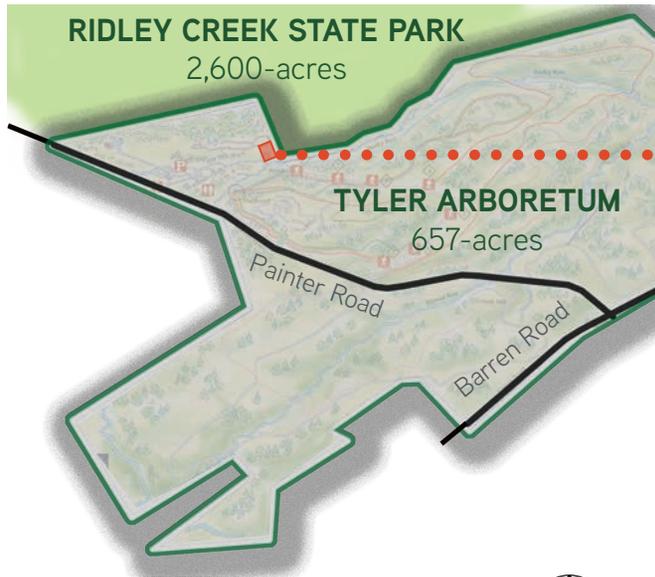
RAIN GARDEN

RIDLEY CREEK STATE PARK
2,600-acres

TYLER ARBORETUM
657-acres

Painter Road

Barren Road



Healthy eating

Healthy living

Healthy land





NATURE PLAY AREA

COMPOST
DEMONSTRATION

RAISED BEDS

BERRY BANK

VEGETABLE GARDEN

FRUIT ORCHARD

CHILDREN'S
VEGETABLE GARDEN

CLASSROOM
BUILDING

RAIN GARDEN

NORTH
TERRACE

SOUTH
TERRACE

19TH CENTURY
RUIN GARDEN

RESTROOMS

In creating Lucille's Edible Garden, Tyler Arboretum sought an expansion of its educational capabilities and community reach. The garden, and classroom at its heart, are a hub for hands-on learning and volunteer engagement.



Healthy eating

HANDS-ON HORTICULTURE

- 1-acre organic fruit and vegetable garden with dedicated children's area and composting demonstration bins
- ADA access: Garden beds of varied height and full barrier-free access
- The multipurpose classroom, in the heart of the garden, includes a kitchen, and opens to terraces to the north and south





COMMUNITY

- A dedicated group of volunteers tend the garden
- Fresh produce is donated weekly to the Media foodbank
- Year-round programming for all ages



Healthy land

SUSTAINABILITY

- Compost produced on site contributes to healthy soils and helps to educate about regenerative agriculture
- Recycled and repurposed materials for nature play
- Rain garden and building foundation plantings are native species
- Stormwater runoff collected in rain garden



SITE DESIGN

The design team sought a complete integration of architecture and landscape. The main north-south axis of the garden passes through the glass building vestibule, providing long views through the site and separating the classroom from the offices and restrooms.



SITE DEVELOPMENT The vegetable garden is a contemporary interpretation of traditional rectilinear geometry.



SITE DEVELOPMENT Within one growing season the garden was transformed to a green oasis.



SITE DETAIL

Custom fencing defines the perimeter of the vegetable garden. A smaller scale woven fence frames the space dedicated to children.



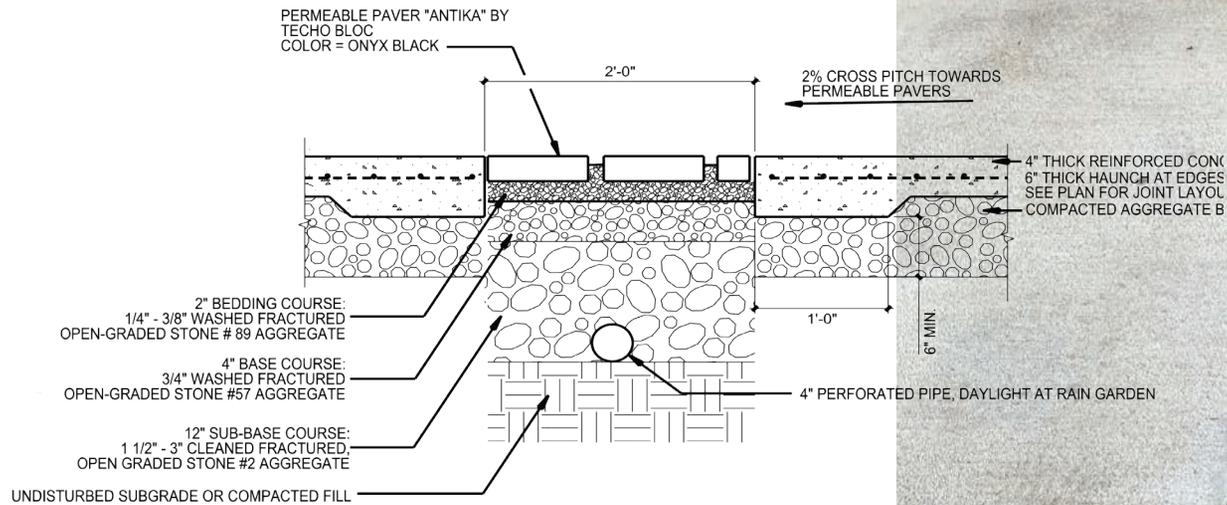
NATURE PLAY

Whimsical natural structures, set amidst trees and native plantings, invite children to explore wild spaces beyond the garden. On-site materials are recycled to create play structures and benches. This transition area leads to the woodlands surrounding the site.



STORMWATER

The rain garden collects and slowly releases the stormwater from the building, terraces, and a network of subsurface drains that runs throughout the vegetable garden. The sculptural landform is enhanced with native woody and herbaceous plantings.



SITE DETAIL

A permeable paving rill in the center of the north terrace expresses the journey of stormwater flow to the nearby rain garden and directs runoff away from the vegetable garden.



RUIN GARDEN

A 19th century ruin, adjacent to the south terrace, is a remnant of the former cottage foundation. The water feature is a nod to the old springhouse.



HARVEST

In partnership with the local Media foodbank, the garden enables Tyler to share produce with the community. In the first growing season, Tyler donated over 1000-lbs of produce.



Asimina triloba



Malus ssp.



Cornus sericea



Rhus typhina



Vaccinium corymbosum



Rubus odoratus



Asclepias incarnata



Veronicastrum virginicum



POLLINATORS

The extensive palette of native woody and herbaceous species, accented with seasonal plants, makes a rich garden that is highly attractive to pollinators.

LUCILLE'S EDIBLE GARDEN PLANT LIST

DECIDUOUS TREES

Asimina triloba
Amelanchier canadensis 'Princess Diana'
Cercis canadensis
Chionanthus virginicus
Catalpa speciosa
Cornus florida
Magnolia acuminata
Nyssa sylvatica
Ostrya virginiana
Quercus phellos
Taxodium ascendens

FRUIT BEARING TREES

Malus 'Enterprise'
Malus 'Liberty'
Malus 'Pristine'
Malus 'Redfree'
Malus 'Sundance'

SHRUBS

Callicarpa americana
Cephalotaxus harringtoniana 'Duke Gardens'
Clethra alnifolia 'Ruby Spice'
Cornus sericea 'Baileyi'
Corylus americana
Fothergilla 'Suzanne'
Gaylussacia baccata
Ilex glabra 'Shamrock'
Physocarpus opulifolius
Rhododendron carolinianum
Rhus aromatica 'Gro Lo'

Rhus typhina
Ribes x nidigrolaria 'Josta'
Sambucus nigra 'Eva'
Weigela 'Minor Black'

PERENNIAL AND GROUNDCOVERS

Actaea racemosa
Andropogon gerardii
Amsonia hubrechtii
Amsonia 'Blue Ice'
Asclepias incarnata
Aster laevis 'Bluebird'
Athyrium 'Lady in Red'
Calamagrostis brachytricha
Calamagrostis 'Karl Foerster'
Camassia leichtlinii
Carex radiata
Chelone lyonii
Dennstaedtia punctiloba
Eupatorium maculatum 'Gateway'
Eupatorium dubium
Heuchera villosa 'Autumn Bride'
Liatris spicata
Matteuccia struthiopteris
Packera aurea
Penstemon digitalis 'Husker Red'
Polygonatum odoratum variegatum
Rudbeckia 'Goldsturm'
Solidago 'Golden Fleece'
Solidago 'Solar Cascade'
Sporobolus heterolepis
Veronicastrum virginicum 'Lavender Towers'

BERRIES

Rubus fruticosus 'Chester'
Rubus 'Heritage'
Rubus 'Indian Summer'
Rubus 'Joan J'
Rubus odoratus
Rubus 'Polana'
Vaccinium corymbosum 'Herbert'
Vaccinium corymbosum 'Patriot'
Vaccinium corymbosum 'Pioneer'
Orchard Grass = Ernst Native/Naturalized Solar Farm Seed Mix, ERNMX-186-1