



CREATIVE ENTERPRISES, Inc. Lawrenceville, GA

DATES: 2011 - PRESENT

Creative Enterprises, Inc. is a non-profit that focuses on employment assistance for people with disabilities.

The organization also provides a number of services to its clients, including classes in basic skills like money management and cooking. Job training opportunities are also onsite, including a thrift store, animal shelter, greenhouse, and workshop. These activities were housed in a number of disconnected buildings.



The organization contacted CED looking for design help for its growing facility, which includes several adjacent buildings and properties. Assistant Professor Katherine Melcher took the project on in her “Community and Place” graduate studio, providing a master plan to Creative Enterprises in 2011, and following up with ideas for site improvements in 2013.



Before developing their design recommendations, Melcher's students met with Creative Enterprise's clients to learn about their unique needs and perspective. The clients that Creative Enterprises serves represent a range of abilities, as well as mobilities. Accommodating this spectrum of users is a difficult design challenge. To gain a better understanding of the clients' needs, pairs--comprised of one graduate student and one client--toured the State Botanical Gardens of Georgia, providing a chance for one on one interaction. The class also conducted a design workshop with the organization's clients and staff between designer and client. These experiences gave the students personal insights into the unique needs of those who would use and inhabit the spaces students designed.

THIS OUTREACH PROJECT WAS CONDUCTED BY
students and faculty of the University of Georgia College of Environment + Design.
Ph: (706) 542-1816 www.ced.uga.edu

PARTNER: CREATIVE ENTERPRISES, INC.

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Creative Enterprises Inc.

EROSION CONTROL + CONNECTING WALKWAYS

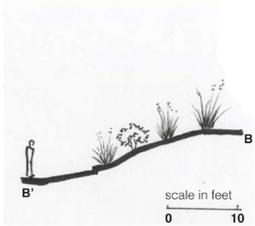
Mitigate bank erosion through concrete pavers, coir matting, and plant material. Increase accessibility in swamp area by constructing a raised deck walkway.

ESTIMATE OF PROJECT COSTS: Not available.
 (materials only, labor and tools not included)

LEVEL OF EXPERTISE: Professional

SECTION B - B'

Looking west, this section illustrates the slope above the parking lot. Note the plantings placed at the top of the hill and spaced along the slope.



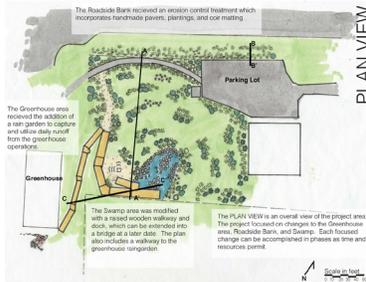
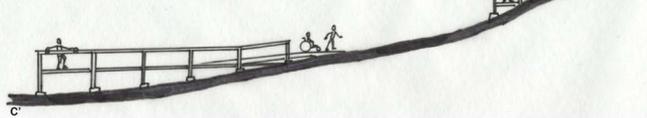
SECTION A - A'

Looking west, this section illustrates the slope from the greenhouse to the swamp. It includes the dock and walkway.



SECTION C - C'

This section illustrates the slope from the greenhouse to the dock. It cuts the walkway to show its slope.



SHADE AND SEATING STRUCTURES

The people-responsive chain-link fence creates to provide shelter for view and fabric to weave into providing shade for people below. Arch-like structure with and crisscrossed aggregate walking trail provide workout opportunities for clients to enjoy. The portable shade structure allows CPWC and resident fabric to provide shade. The bench is constructed entirely out of used pallets.

ESTIMATE OF PROJECT COSTS: People \$850.00
 (materials only, labor and tools not included) Portable shade structure \$575.00
 Bench \$15.00

LEVEL OF EXPERTISE: Intermediate - Professional



THRIFT STORE GARDEN AND RAIN CATCHMENT

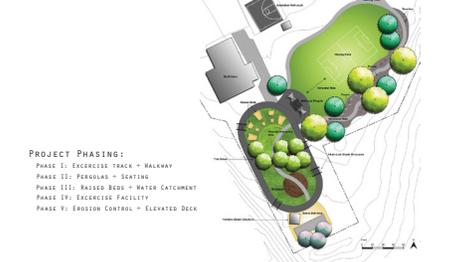
Raised bed gardens and rain barrel catchment system promote both sustainability and conservation on the CEI campus. Berry bushes and other locally occurring plants material bring outdoor interest and delight.

ESTIMATE OF PROJECT COSTS: Rain Barrel w/Flush Chamber \$200.00
 Rain Barrel w/o Flush Chamber \$120.00
 Vertical Planter \$68.24
 Raised Bed Planter \$215.00
 Berry Bushes (25) \$720.94

LEVEL OF EXPERTISE: Intermediate



CEI PROJECT SUMMARIES



PROJECT PHASING:

- PHASE I: EXERCISE TRACK + WALKWAY
- PHASE II: PERGOLAS + SEATING
- PHASE III: RAISED BEDS + WATER CATCHMENT
- PHASE IV: EXERCISE FACILITY
- PHASE V: EROSION CONTROL + ELEVATED DECK

In addition to the interactions and interviews with Creative Enterprises' clients and staff, the students studied the design of number of similar facilities, and researched healing gardens and accessibility standards to determine appropriate design strategies for disabled users. The final master plan incorporated this knowledge and addressed a number of onsite issues, including circulation between buildings, lack of outdoor activity

space, and quality of the outdoor environment. The 2013 studio proposed several site amenities to flesh out this master plan, with a focus on creating simple and legible concepts that could be easily built by volunteers or staff members using readily available materials. These recommendations included raised planters and garden structures, seating and exercise spaces, and environmentally friendly site features to address stormwater and erosion onsite.

Since the project began, a number of improvements have been built by students, volunteers, and the organization. A new sidewalk now connects two of the buildings, passing by a recently constructed amphitheatre in a small valley recently cleared of invasives. New benches line the walkway. Other improvements to the site include a bocce ball court, and an attractive trellis made of reclaimed materials that screens a service area. Behind one of the buildings, an outdoor art wall has been created, showcasing the work of the program's clients.



UPDATES ARE AVAILABLE HERE: <http://tinyurl.com/CEDOutreach>
 MORE INFORMATION: Jennifer Lewis, Public Service Projects Coordinator, jmlewis@uga.edu, 706-369-5885.

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