

Live Green

Recognition Program

After Action Report

Project Name: Garden Upgrade
Number of Youth participated: 18
Length of Project: 6 hrs

How did your group/organization choose your service project? Did you identify two or three of the most important environmental needs facing your installation or community? The front gardens at Youth Programs had been damaged by storms and needed an overhaul and upgrade. A local Girl Scout troop wanted to assist our teens with the beautification project and working together they created a lovely landscape. There was a need for drought tolerant plantings, foliage that would not need to be replaced each year, plants that could withstand storm winds, and added color for the community to enjoy.

Describe challenges, if any, faced during your service project. Some of the members were afraid of bugs, spiders, and garden snakes that sometime visit the gardens.

What resources, skills, or assets did you use to get your service project completed? Torch Club funds paid for the plants and tools needed for the project. Our summer Teen Camp Xtreme members joined forces with the local Girl Scout troop to accomplish the project. Some of the plants came from home gardens that needed purging, such as bromeliads that needed separating. We also planted pineapple tops that came from the kitchen scraps. We also planted "Mosquito Plants" in an effort to educate the members on the added benefits of some plants beyond their color, beauty, and drought tolerant aspects.

Describe your group's long term goal or purpose in conducting your project? The long term goal was to create an appealing landscape for our members and the community to enjoy that would not take too much maintenance or watering and would have a better chance of living through the high winds and driving rains of the storm season as well as the long hot days of the drought season.

What does success look like for your project? Can it be measured? Is it attainable? Success is a beautiful landscape that survives the storms and drought seasons as it teaches our members to appreciate the act of gardening. Are the plantings still intact? Are they thriving and maturing? Have the members noticed the ease of maintenance? Yes, it is attainable as the natural habitat of Florida shows that it survives throughout these challenging seasons. In using plants that are native to the area and have survived the weather changes, we have given this project the tools to succeed.

Please use additional sheet for comments or suggestions.