

# #21 - Tristan Gladfelter

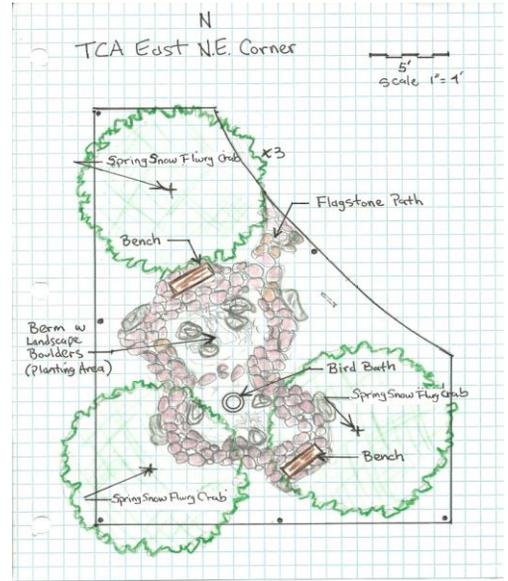
Sep 2010 – present / Eagle Scout - January 18, 2012



**Eagle Project:** Nature Study Garden for TCA East Campus

**Description:** A landscaping project at The Classical Academy East campus, utilizing a currently sodden area. Design includes a flower garden for the K-6th graders to plant flowers for both educational and skill building purposes, low maintenance flowering trees along with a flagstone walk, landscape boulders, edger, and soil mix & bark mulch. Seating includes two concrete benches as well as some landscape stones that can be also be used as seating. Also included a birdbath in the design for art students' perspective drawing.

**Project Benefit:** Provides an ideal setting and nearby outdoor learning area for students to observe and study nature. It also provides an outdoor classroom situation for art students to draw and improve their artistic ability with a variety of natural lighting and perspective features like plants, rocks, trees and the birdbath. The landscaping greatly improved the view from the school's atrium creating a new desirable and season changing focal point with flowering trees, seasonal flowers, fall color, and a slightly raised planting area with landscape features like boulders and a birdbath. School employees can eat lunch outside in the area on nice weather days.



# Lessons Learned

1. We had to purchase two benches for the project since the school was not able to provide the benches from the atrium. They indicated that although they were under used, they still needed them for students or visiting parents who were in the area having to wait. This ended up adding an additional \$318 to the project cost but the benches I picked out were a much better "fit" than those that were in the school atrium (better size for elementary children) and they looked so much better (natural appeal and right sizing for the garden).
2. We eliminated \$75 per load delivery fees from Pioneer Sand Company by my dad and my advisor picking up the materials instead. This saved Pioneer Sand & Gravel Company from making 3-4 deliveries, a total savings of between \$225 - \$300 in delivery costs. Overall, gasoline costs for my dad and my advisor added up to approximately \$35.
3. We over ordered by  $\frac{1}{2}$  cubic yard on the bark and about  $\frac{1}{4}$  yard on the joint filler for the flagstones.
4. We didn't have an available hose bib for water near the project and had to transport water for the trees in buckets.
5. The school provided us with the use of a small golf cart sized utility vehicle which we were able to use to haul away the grass we cut out to fill in an erosion area as well as ferry buckets of water from the other side of the building to water the trees. This saved us countless hours of manual labor where we would have had to haul away the cut grass in wheelbarrows at least a quarter mile.
6. Although the project stayed perfectly on time (we finished at the planned time of 5:00PM), we did use 6 more volunteers through the afternoon than what I had originally planned for after lunch. The extra help allowed me to keep within my original time frames. Earlier in the week, I made the decision to move the project start time back an hour from 7:00AM to 8:00AM because at that point we had a cool front and the temps were in the high 30s early in the morning. By the day of the project, the temperatures were warmer but I decided to stay with the delayed time. The project ended up staying on schedule time length wise.
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