
Lake Erie Arboretum at Frontier Park

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LEAF Orchard Proposal

July 20, 2023

Mission: LEAF intends to support members of the community in planting an orchard of fruit trees in an area of Erie which will benefit members of its neighborhood, with the idea that this orchard can be a source of both education and nutrition in a designated Environmental Justice space.

"I am very excited about the initiative to plant so many trees in Erie, but I feel very passionately that these trees should be able to feed people." - Amanda Gates

Members & Project Positions

<u>Individual</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Responsibilities</u>
Hannah Rhodes	LEAF Education Coord.	Project Leader	assigning tasks, calling meetings, scheduling, promotion, preparing educational materials
Amanda Gates	Community Member	Community Coordinator	
Step Ciner	Garden Expert		Appoint Kid Leader in Sept.,
Grace Rhodes		Project Arborist	
William Swick	LEAF Intern		
?	Kid Leader		
Erin Green	LEAF Executive Director	Project Approval (LEAF)	Approve plans and purchases on behalf of LEAF

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Timeline: This project will start in July 2023 and conclude in November 2023, with ongoing maintenance and education into the following years.

- **JULY** – Initial meeting, planning, securing Nickelodeon grant funds, city approval of designated space
- **AUG** – Purchasing, tilling ground
- **SEPT** – building (Agricultural Zone 6b), planting
- **OCT** – finishing touches, grand opening, public education events
- Sustaining Efforts – provide regular water during Year 1, protect the trunks from animals, support varieties that need to be staked



Budget:

<u>Anticipated Purchase</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Source</u>
Garden fencing x 10	\$299.80	Lowe's
Compost x 10	\$28.80	Lowe's
Topsoil x 20	\$179.60	Lowe's
Mature Fruit Trees x 20	\$1,200	Stan's
Mulch x 20	\$99.60	Lowe's
TOTAL	\$1,807.80	

LEAF Contributions (Additional)

<u>Item</u>	<u>Cost</u>
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Serviceberry, Elderberry Trees	Donated
Signage	TBD



Impact: The goal of this project is to create a fruit orchard in an environmental justice area which will directly benefit the surrounding neighborhood. The two prongs of success will be that:

1. The orchard produces fruit used by members of the Erie East Side Community.
2. The orchard facilitates educational opportunities for members of the Erie East Side Community.

To accomplish these goals, the LEAF Open Orchard team will hold a weekly public education opportunity at the orchard starting upon completion of the orchard and lasting until the winter season. Members of the community will be invited to learn about the orchard, the fruits, nutrition, and uses. Members of the community will be notified of these opportunities through local organizations and neighborhood canvassing.

To measure the success of these goals, each public education opportunity will have a general “count” to determine outreach success. If members of the community do not attend as expected, outreach strategies will be reassessed and unused fruit can be donated locally.



Location: If your project requires physical space, have you decided the location? Do you have all necessary permission and permits to carry out your project at the chosen location?

Kid Leader: A “Kid Leader” will be appointed at the start of the school year, when our team can involve members of the Garden Club at a local middle school. This was approved by a ChangeX representative.

The kid leader will help design the orchard, choose the trees, plant and water, and decide on educational materials. Their name will exist on signage for the orchard.



Resources:

- [Environmental Justice Area Locator](#)
- [Agricultural Zones Map](#)