## Nature Area Prayer Gardens

# UPDATE

January 202

### **New Connection and Name**

The Nature Area is now part of the Prayer Ministry of CCPC, which is led by pastor Ellen Dittman. This connection reflects a key reason we are developing this property: to experience God's presence through prayer, contemplation and observation of His creation.

Because the Nature Area will ultimately offer several garden areas, 'Prayer Gardens' has been added to the name.

See the various garden areas and other elements in the master vision plan: <u>CanyonCreekPres.org/Nature-Area</u>

# happenings

### ☑ completed

» Storage shed, in the far southeast corner, that houses the tools, equipment and supplies that have been donated by CCPC members and friends.



Donated tools, equipment, and supplies in the new NA&PG storage shed.

- » Main entry path with signpost and two large compost bins, thanks to Nikhil Jeeva and Jonathan Paspula, respectively. Members of Boy Scout troop 295, they completed these as their Eagle Award projects.
- » Tagging of 'must keep' plants. Strips of blue plastic (City of Richardson recycling bags) have been tied onto bushes and trees that will be kept in the NA&PG.

### □ upcoming

- » Assemble rustic archway over the NA&PG main entrance using tree limbs.
- » Lay out pathways, using pieces of leftover landscape fabric to kill weeds and prepare for gravel, mulch, wood chips or decomposed granite.
- » Complete application to the Native Plant Society of Texas for a grant to expand our Monarch/Butterfly Garden.

### needs

- » Things New or used tools, equipment, supplies, etc. Specific needs for current and upcoming projects include:
  - Tree limb pruner/pole saw
  - Transfer/square-point shovel
  - Standard digging shovel
  - Combination lock for storage shed
  - Bricks, pavers, river rocks (smooth) and landscape rocks (all sizes)
  - Sand, gravel and decomposed granite
  - Mulch and shredded wood chips
  - Two 55-gallon blue plastic barrels (for rainwater collection)

» Volunteers COVID-19 prevents groups of volunteers at the NA&PG, but individuals and family members are welcome and encouraged to help at any time. These tasks would be especially helpful now:

- Rake leaves and put in compost bins
- · Lay fabric along identified paths
- · Spread mulch on cleared paths
- · Relocate some dirt from a large pile
- Remove vines from trees, bushes and other 'must keep' plants

Please contact Craig Conditt to discuss these and other volunteer projects.

- » Money This is always needed for those items and services that cannot easily be donated.
  - **NOTE:** In keeping with the church's focus on paying off our building mortgage, monetary donations should be **over and above pledged giving** to the Set Free campaign and the CCPC operating fund.

There are several ways to donate:

**ONLINE**: Search for 'Nature Area Project Gifts' in the *Fund* area of the Giving page.

**CHECK**: Make it out to CCPC, with NP-PG in the memo line, and mail it to the church, attn: Finance.

**CASH:** Contact Craig to coordinate a dropoff or pickup.

**CARDS**: Herb Reed's 'Four Seasons' note card sets are still available. Suggested donation is \$10 for four cards. Contact Craig to coordinate a dropoff or pickup.





The two new compost bins are ready to be filled with leaves, grass / plant clippings, and other natural materials.

### $\sim$ COMPANION PROJECTS $\sim$

Although they are not technically part of the NA&PG, two nature/beautification projects are underway both on and off the CCPC campus.

### pocket prairie

The former playground area, on the west side of the campus, will be left to grow into a small section of Texas prairie. It has been marked off as a nomow zone and is ready for planting.

- NEEDED Native seeds and plants
  - Expertise for proper sowing

#### city wildflowers

CCPC is participating in the City of Richardson's <u>Operation Bloom Town</u> program, and wildflower seeds were recently sown in the North Star Road median adjacent to the sanctuary. The City plants these at cost, which is \$100 per 1/10th acre, covering ~4,300 sq ft.

NEEDED • Donations to help cover this un-budgeted cost

# thanks

**Grateful thanks** to church members and friends of CCPC for their contributions of needed items, plants, time or money in recent months:

Thelma & Arzell Ball • Ann Cain • Ann Cain neighbors • Steve Clary • Andrea, Claire & Emma Conditt • Mike Emmert • Kathy Heick • Bart & Pattie Hubbard • Nikhil Jeeva • Jonathan Paspula • Kevin Starnes

### Have Questions, Ideas, Advice?

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