

A378_2016AbstractJohnsonChristine

Abstract

The 42 acres of land that currently belong to the Muncie Delaware County Fairgrounds is suffering from erosion, water management issues, and a lack of ecosystem services. Even though the site was originally forested at the beginning of the 1800s, it has since lost over 90% of its trees. Because of this, an investment in restoration and education is vital to improving these native ecological communities. The outcomes of this project are the creation of an arboretum master plan design that restores ecosystem services and biodiversity while also looking 50 years into the future and planning for various disasters, such as droughts or floods that might jeopardize the health of the new site. There is also an educational center located on the site to provide the surrounding community with the tools they need to become better informed about trees and their importance in the landscape.

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