

Installing an Archway Entrance at the Wildcat Farm's Food Forest

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Introduction

The Wildcat Farm is a great resource for the CWU community. In addition to growing fresh produce for various kitchens, they have the Community Garden, where interested people may adopt a garden plot – at no extra cost – for the season. Located behind the Community Garden is the newly developed Food Forest. This area is fully open to visitors and contains fruit trees and herb circles open for foraging. The Food Forest is a great new resource for the CWU community, and farm staff members are eager to increase visibility and present the forest as a welcoming place. Farm staff leads Kaitlyn Flescher and Nora Jacobs believe that a visible entrance to the Food Forest could provide the boost in visitors that this great area deserves.

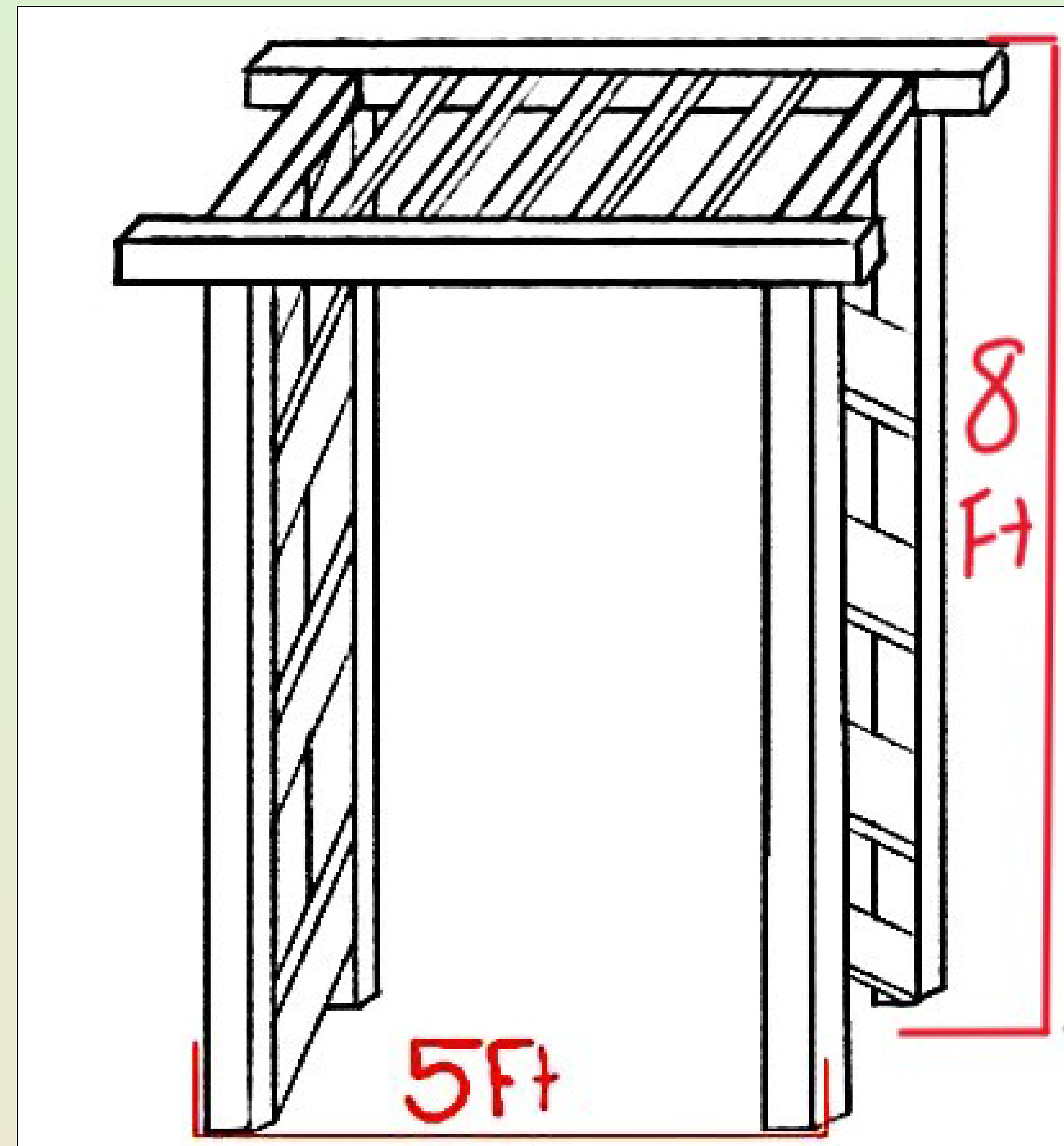


Wildcat Farm – Food Forest

- Former sustainability project
- ENST 480, original project helmed by Mila Eslinger
- Fully open to visitors
- Fruit and herb foraging



Figure 1: Map of Wildcat Farm, archway location circled in red (Google Maps)



Archway Design – Sturdy Build

- Wind resistant design (above)
 - 4 posts, diagonal support planks along the side
- Weather resistant materials
 - Weather sealant
- Minimal chemical presence – natural wood product, non-treated



Native Plants – Support Biodiversity!

- Shrubsteppe native plants
 - Drought resistant, low maintenance
- Irrigated location
- Ground cover plants to be placed evenly in front of both sides – Penstemon (species undecided) (top left) and Orange Globe Mallow (*Spaeralcea munroana*) (top right)
- Vining plants to be woven up the sides – Native Raspberry (*Rubus idaeus*), Native Black Raspberry (*Rubus leucodermis*) or Western Clematis (*Clematis ligusticifolia*) (top middle)

Conclusion

This trellis style archway will help draw more attention to the Food Forest at the Wildcat Farm. The structure is designed to be wind resistant, while the native plants are drought resistant, overall making it low maintenance.



Figure 2: Field prep event at the Wildcat Farm (left) and the Food Forest entry path (right)

This Project Supports UN Sustainable Development Goals:

2 ZERO HUNGER



15 LIFE ON LAND



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- Derby Canyon Natives

References

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