Problems

Orthogonal footpaths
High-maintenance landscape
Flooding
Vehicle damage to grass
Salt damage

Solutions

Throughout the course of the semester, IPRO326 has developed research on plant species which would thrive in our unique urban conditions. From this research, we’ve developed a manual for use by facilities when planting which will transform our campus’ environment into a more sustainable one, reducing yearly costs, beautifying the campus, and helping the environment. These suggestions take into account light/shade conditions, water requirements, and soil conditions. Our research has focused on a number of areas on campus labeled by students as having the most severe issues.

Future

IRPO326 has lastly come up with a number of suggestions for IIT to try which we feel will benefit the campus and reduce costs and maintenance associated with our landscape. Some of these suggestions include:
- Testing and deciding upon an alternative to salt.
- Experimenting with different ground covers based upon the various ecological conditions we’ve researched.
- The introduction of a green house on campus for the growth of plants planted annually.
- The creation of an IIT composting program, recycling IIT’s yard waste and eliminating the need for chemical fertilizers.
- Further development of our campus’ use of local plant species.