

Problems

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



I PRO326 aims to explore a completely sustainable urban ecosystem design with the goal of presenting a renewable plan for the IIT campus that provides all the necessary beauty and function of a college campus while also minimizing maintenance or additional secondary expense past the initial investment.

Solutions



Throughout the course of the semester, I PRO326 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.

