

Green Profile: Pioneer

Pioneer features an impressive sensory garden, a raised-bed food garden, numerous young trees, a vine-covered arbor, and many other unique features.

Over 40 different species of plants grace the grounds of Pioneer, each with a distinctive name.

Some of these plants include:

Trumpet honeysuckle

Lamb's ears

'Autumn Magic' black chokeberry

Number of plants planted:

20 Trees

158 Shrubs

745 Perennials

512 Ornamental grasses



The Benefits of Greening



Educational Benefits

Diagnosed with a range of physical and mental disabilities, Pioneer students all need specialized care and instruction. The school's sensory garden, filled with plants of various textures, colors, and scents, offers therapeutic benefits. Positioned at wheelchair height, plants are easily accessible to students, allowing them to explore and improve their senses, and learn firsthand about life cycles and growth. Even simply sitting among the plants is a tranquil experience for students, teachers and parents who use the garden.

Plants aren't the only materials that make up the sensory garden; a bubbling water feature, interactive musical benches and play panels, bird houses, and objects that spin in the wind are but a few unique features that enhance students' experiences with the garden.



About the Green Profile

Funded by The Grable Foundation, the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy's School Grounds Greening Project brings children closer to nature by enhancing the grounds of Pittsburgh Public Schools with greenery and outdoor green spaces.

The *Green Profile* is a fact sheet that highlights the projects WPC has completed at each of the Pittsburgh Public Schools.



Environmental Benefits

The 20 trees planted at Pioneer are currently 2" in diameter. If they are well cared for and grow to 8", they have the potential (per year) to:

Absorb 12,567 gallons of storm water runoff

Conserve 649 kilowatt hours of electricity by cooling the building

Reduce atmospheric carbon by 3,684 pounds

\$1,025 in annual benefits!



Calculations provided by www.treebenefits.org