

# Green Profile: Sunnyside (K-8)

One of the most distinctive features of **Sunnyside (K-8)** is the expansive green space located within the school's courtyard. A variety of shrubs, perennials, and ornamental grasses adorn the green space, in addition to natural log benches.

Some of the plants planted in the courtyard include:

**Christmas fern**

**Azalea**

**Daylily**

**Number of plants planted:**

**10** Trees

**10** Shrubs

**40** Perennials

**10** Ornamental grasses



## 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.



## The Benefits of Greening



### Educational Benefits

Sunnyside's courtyard is a serene, colorful space that is ideal for learning. The easy-to-arrange log benches can be set up to form circles or lecture-style seating. Teachers can utilize the open-air space to hold group discussions, silent reading time, or to teach lessons of any kind. Students can explore and observe the surrounding greenery, learning about nature's life cycles and species identification in the process.

### Beautification

The 10 zelkova trees planted in front of Sunnyside provide color and interest around the school's parking lot. The zelkova has a unique vase shape, earning it the nickname of 'green vase.' The trees' serrated, green leaves turn a bright yellow or orange color in the fall.



### Environmental Benefits

The 10 trees planted at Sunnyside are currently 2" in diameter. If they are well cared for and grow to 8", they have the potential (per year) to:

**Absorb** 8,220 gallons of storm water runoff

**Conserve** 720 kilowatt hours of electricity by cooling the building

**Reduce** atmospheric carbon by 3,020 pounds

**\$1,000 in annual benefits!**



Calculations provided by [www.treebenefits.org](http://www.treebenefits.org)