

# Green Profile: Science and Technology Academy (6-12)

**Science and Technology Academy (6-12)** features multiple perennial gardens around the perimeter of the school which hold an assortment of colorful plants.

Here are some interesting facts about some of the new plants:

**Hydrangea** shrubs produce flowers that bloom in different colors, ranging from pink to blue, depending on the acidity level of the soil.

The **ninebark** shrub gets its name from its excessively 'exfoliating' or peeling bark. This distinctive feature led gardeners to believe that the shrub had nine layers of bark.

## Number of plants planted:

**10** Trees    **40** Ornamental grasses

**104** Shrubs    **180** Perennials



## 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

The new plants at the Science and Technology Academy are excellent learning tools for students. All of the new plants installed at the school are native to our region. Native plants have many benefits; unlike non-native plants, natives tend to be hardy, less susceptible to pests, and less likely to become invasive. Native plants also help to maintain biodiversity, the variation of species, which is necessary for a balanced ecosystem.

### Beautification

30 different species of trees, shrubs, and perennials grace the school grounds, including switch grass, flowering dogwood trees, bigleaf hydrangea shrubs, and purple coneflowers. This wide variety of species creates a palette of vibrant colors, shapes, textures, and fragrances.



### Environmental Benefits

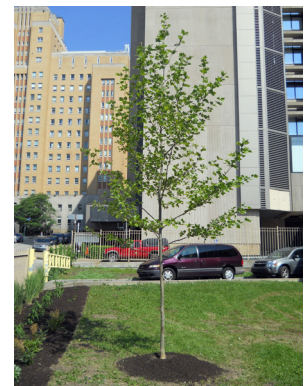
The 10 trees planted at Science and Technology are currently 2" in diameter. If they are well cared for and grow to 8", they have the potential (per year) to:

**Absorb** 3,856 gallons of storm water runoff

**Conserve** 255 kilowatt hours of electricity by cooling the building

**Reduce** atmospheric carbon by 1,473 pounds

**\$425 in annual benefits!**



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