

# Green Profile: Obama (6-12)

The **Barack Obama Academy of International Studies (6-12)** features a vibrant green courtyard at the main entrance of the school. Hard blocks were removed to make space for new trees, shrubs and tall grasses that soften the look of the school and adjacent parking lot.

**Arctic fire dogwood** shrubs turn a vibrant shade of red, providing a lovely color contrast to the lush green of the arborvitae and fragrant sumac.

## Number of plants planted:

- 18 Trees
- 87 Shrubs
- 22 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



### Maintenance Benefits

The plants at Obama provide a permeable surface that will aid in storm water alleviation along the stairs to the entrance, which are below street level. The arborvitae and multi-stem river birch trees will require virtually no pruning.

### Beautification

Located at a bustling urban intersection, the plants at Obama provide a green touch to a school that was previously dominated by hardscape.



## Environmental Benefits

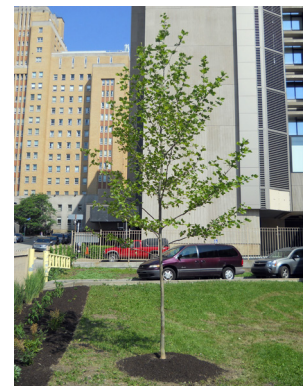
The 18 trees planted at Obama (6-12) are currently 2" in diameter. If they are well cared for and grow to 8", they have the potential (per year) to:

**Absorb** 11,269 gallons of storm water runoff

**Conserve** 587 kilowatt hours of electricity by cooling the building

**Reduce** atmospheric carbon by 3,197 pounds

**\$921 in annual benefits!**



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