COUNTY AGENDA REQUEST

Department:	Cooperative Extension Office	Presenter(s):	Kimberly Jackson
Meeting Date:	Wednesday, April 4, 2012	Type of Request:	New Business

Wording for the Agenda:

The Fayette County Extension Office requests permission to build a permanent shade structure next to the Intern garden behind the Admin Complex building for the purpose of education in an outdoor classroom setting.

Background/History/Details:

The Mission of Extension is "to provide information and education, and encourage the application of research-based knowledge in response to local, state, and national issues affecting individuals, youth, families, agricultural enterprises, and communities Fayette County." As most of our programs educate in the area of Agricultural and Environmental science, we have seen a growing need for an outdoor classroom to augment the youth programs and horticultural classes offered to the citizens of Fayette County. Many of our programs take place in the spring and summer and a shade structure is needed to provide a safe and effective outdoor learning environment. Classes include, but are not limited to

4-H Youth Science Classes: Water conservation, Home Vegetable & Herb gardening, Wildlife Conservation, Forestry Identification and management, Plant and Soil Science, Rocks and Minerals, Habitat, Ecosystems, Landscaping, General Horticulture, Land management, Beneficial Insects and Composting
Extension Office Adult Horticulture Classes: Home Vegetable & Herb Gardening, Landscaping, Turf management, Home Tree Management, Pest management, Composting, Pesticide Safety, Organic Gardening, and Water and Soil Conservation

What action are you seeking from the Board of Commissioners?

We are seeking the initial approval to start the process of gathering the materials and blueprints for the construction of an outdoor classroom in the Educational Garden behind the Extension Office. We would also like to seek whether this structure would be possible to implement in the area requested. Once blueprints have been made, we will seek approval from the Board of Commissioners for the structure to be implemented.

If this item requires funding, please describe:

Funding is not required from the county as funds have been raised to build this structure at the educational garden. Local boyscouts will be taking on the construction of the structure as one of their projects for this year.

Has this request been considered within the past two years?	No	If so, when?	
Is Audio-Visual Equipment Required for this Request?*	No	Backup Provided with Request?	Yes

**** All audio-visual material must be submitted to the County Clerk's Office no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting. It is also your department's responsibility to ensure all third-party audio-visual material is submitted at least 48 hours in advance.***

Approved by Finance	Not Applicable	Reviewed by Legal	Yes
Approved by Purchasing	Not Applicable	County Clerk's Approval	Yes
Administrator's Approval	Yes		

Staff Notes:

Shade Structure Proposal

Fayette County Extension Office

Request: *The Fayette County Extension Office Request permission to build a permanent Shade structure Next to the Intern garden behind the Admin Complex building for the purpose of education in an outdoor classroom setting.*

Goals and Objectives

-To provide a shade structure beside the Extension Office Garden to be utilized for an outdoor classroom for Fayette County Extension Youth Programs and Horticultural Classes that are a free service to the Fayette County Community

- An comfortable and safe outdoor learning environment open to the general public of Fayette county in close proximity to the Public Library

The Fayette County Extension Office: The Mission of Extension is "to provide information and education, and encourage the application of research-based knowledge in response to local, state, and national issues affecting individuals, youth, families, agricultural enterprises, and communities Fayette County." The Agriculture Agent and Master Gardener volunteers offer free adult educational classes ranging from environmental issues to horticulture training. The 4-H Program carries out this mission by offering Schools Science Enrichment programs that reach over 1,000 students each month through In-school and Afterschool programs.

Statement of Need: Most of our programs educate in the area of Environment and Agricultural science. We have seen a growing need for an outdoor classroom to augment the youth programs and horticultural classes listed below. Many of our programs take place in the spring and summer and a shade structure is needed to provide a safe and effective outdoor learning environment.

Resources and Budgeting: The Fayette County Extension office has funds raised and available for the shade structure to be built. We also have Boy Scout troupes wanting to complete this project.

General Plans: Located on the South side of the Extension Office Garden the structure will be approximately 25ft. By 35ft. And be able to hold approximately 30 people.

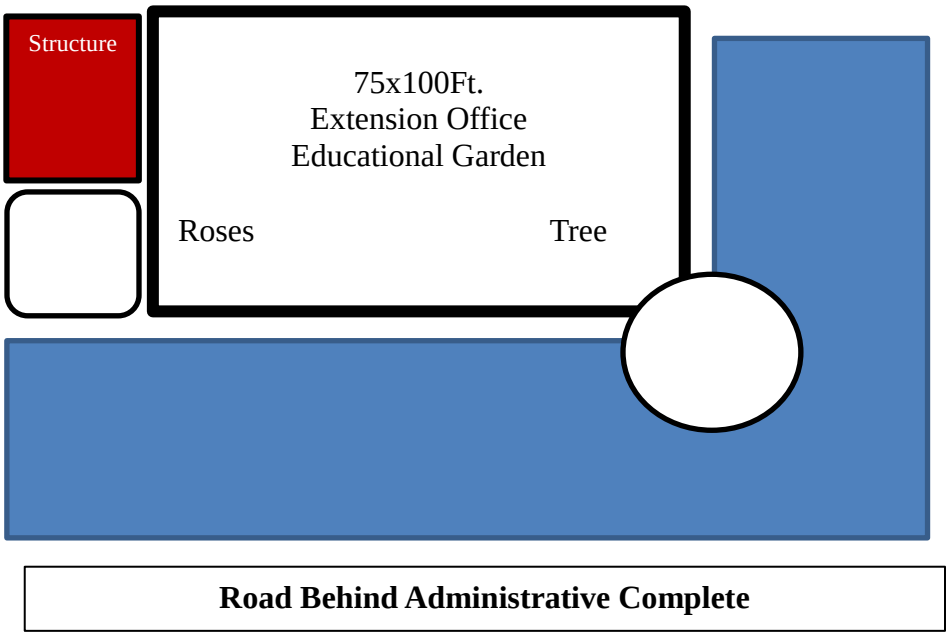
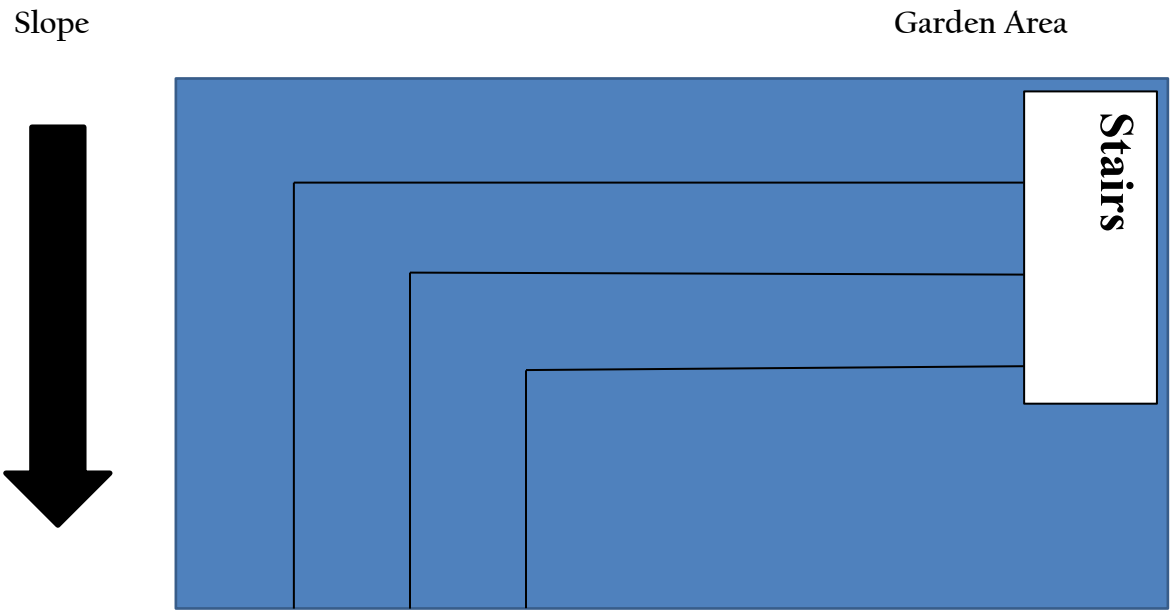
Sample Classes

4-H Youth Science Classes: Water conservation, Home Vegetable & Herb gardening, Wildlife Conservation, Forestry Identification and management, Plant and Soil Science, Rocks and Minerals, Habitat, Ecosystems, Landscaping, General Horticulture, Land management, Beneficial Insects and Composting

Extension Office Adult Horticulture Classes: Home Vegetable & Herb Gardening, Landscaping, Turf management, Home Tree Management, Pest management, Composting, Pesticide Safety, Organic Gardening, and Water and Soil Conservation

Shade structure will be located on the South west corner of Education Garden on slope.

Dimensions: 25 x 35 ft.



- Dimensions: 25 x 35 ft.
- Amphitheatre step seating facing south down slope
- Steps 4 feet wide (stairs 16 inches)