

## PROBLEM STATEMENT II: A Nature Garden for an Assisted Living Community

**INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE:** This problem requires you to build on your experience of the townhouse site panning project intended for an older population. You will now be designing a garden setting for an assisted living community with particular emphasis on the benefits of exposure to nature for the residents and their quality of life.

Your site for this problem is the Seneca Residential Care Center located at 126 Tokeena Rd., Seneca, SC.

Other parameters of this project should include the following.

1. Give careful attention to our first week of discussing the meaning of “community” and the tangible and intangible qualities and characteristics that define it. We have an “intentional” community in the form of the facility you are working with and its residents and staff.
2. Design your solutions to maintain or enhance biodiversity - including ecosystem services – as the limitations of a small site might allow.
3. Attention to stormwater management – probably related to item #2 above but most certainly to LID.

### PROJECT APPROACH: Background and Analysis – Team Effort; Teams of Three

1. Locate the site and conduct a cursory analysis of it through Google Earth – the site and its environs.
2. Articulate the various steps and content of a design and planning process – as applied for the townhouse project -and determine what facets of the inventory and analysis are pertinent to this project.
3. Your site analysis should be mapped as a “composite” of information comprised of one or possibly two documents. Importance must be given to site surroundings and general environs, especially as related to nature and its possibly benefits..
4. Be sure to synthesize your analysis through application of the “opportunities”, “constraints”, “critical issues” summary applied to the townhouse project. Let this summary guide your design program.
5. **Be sure to read and discuss the article assigned to you last week** – “Factors Affecting the Extent and Quality of Nature Engagement of Older Adults in a Range of Home Types”. You will be asked to report on this.

### PROJECT APPROACH: Design Development and Design Program – Individual Effort

1. Design development should follow the design process discussed in class and reflect an evolution from bubble diagrams to conceptual design, followed by preliminary and final design. You should have a design program and design criteria, that, in addition to what we have studied to date, including within the content of this problem statement.
2. Minimum program –
  - A master tree planting plan and related low-maintenance planting
  - Circulation that accommodates walking, residents using walkers, and those using wheelchairs
  - Location of two portal structures as presented in class
  - Location of four benches as presented in class
  - Very clear attention to nature – at the project site scale and beyond.

### PROJECT APPROACH: Presentation – Team and Individual Efforts

Your work should initially consist of a “package” of drawings as follows. Sheet size and scale to be determined.

- The team effort at developing and presenting a “comprehensive” site analysis sheet – plan and elevation views with graphics, labels, and notes.
- Conceptual plans using diagrammatic graphics, labels, and notes.
- A final presentation comprising the usual graphic and verbal documentation – **a master plan inclusive of phasing, support graphics, e.g., section elevations, and a model.**
- **Don’t forget a standard title block as described in the course syllabus.**

**EVALUATION:** Each solution will be evaluated in terms of site design solution, graphic quality, including formatting/packaging, overall thoroughness and accuracy as well as research effort, and oral presentations.

**SCHEDULE AND DUE DATES:** TBD except for **master tree planting plan due and presented Friday, March 29**