## **Project: Develop Fruit Tree Guilds**

## **Background**

Guilds are communities of plants that form a self-sufficient system, with each plant having multiple functions and performing a unique role in the ecosystem that benefits the surrounding plants. Our guilds will be set up around a central fruit tree, with understory shrubs, perennials, flowers and ground covers planted to complement the central tree and enhance its health and productivity.

The goal is to increase the productivity, reduce workload, and improve biodiversity in the area. Included in our planting plan are pollinator attractors, pest repellants, mulch plants, nutrient accumulators, and nitrogen fixers.

All of the following plants are rich in nutrients and make excellent fertilizer or mulch for fruit trees. They dredge up nutrients from the soil and accumulate them in their leaves. When the leaves die back or are chopped and dropped, they fertilize the soil (and thus the shallow-lying fruit tree roots).

## Apple and Cherry Tree Guilds

- Currants
- Hysopp
- Horseradish or Sage
- Red Creeping Thyme
- Chives
- Scarlett Runner Beans
- Oregano
- Calendula

The project will include removing the sod in the planting area. Hauling in and spreading garden soil and compost, mixing in soil amendments, planting the trees, shrubs, and understory perennials, flowers and herbs. Finally, we will edge the planted areas with either plastic or metal edging as the budget allows.

## **Budget**

Attached is an approved proposal for the work we have contracted as well as the cost of plant materials. Additional plant materials have been donated and are not reflected below. Additional amendments will also be purchase once soil analysis is complete. The remaining planting, staking, mulching, etc. will be completed by Grow Palmer volunteers.

## **Timeline**

The site work will begin when road restrictions have been lifted and is scheduled to be completed by mid-May – weather permitting. The trees and shrubs will not arrive and be available to Grow Palmer until approximately June 10<sup>th</sup>. Again, final planting will take place as soon as possible – weather permitting. The project should be installed and completed by the end of June.

#### **AURORA GARDENS - Grow Palmer Fruit Forest**

Aurora Gardens	GROW PALMER	2019		
	Fruit Forest	ORDER		
# of Plants	Variety	Cost	Size	Price
3	Juliet Cherry Trees	\$40	2 gal	\$120
10	Currants (Red)	\$35	2 gal	\$350
25	Chives	\$6	5" pot	\$150
36	Red Creeping Thyme	\$12	1 gal	\$432
36	Oregano	\$4.75	· 6-pack	\$28.50
24	Scarlett Runner Beans	\$6	6" pot	\$144
TOTAL				\$1224.50
Discount 20%			<del></del> -	\$979.60

# Your Proposal has been Approved!



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231 w Evergreen Avenue Palmer, Ak 99645

Print-date:

4-23-2019

Please review the estimate below, if estimate is agreed upon please sign and date the proposal, once we receive the agreement we will provide you with a web based ID that you can log into and follow progress and so forth.

The following estimate details are as followed below.

remove a 15 x 80' area of sod, install plastic or metal edging as budget will allow, place up to 8" of soil in excavated area and plant 5 trees total to be supplied by Grow Palmer.

Work will be completed as weather allows and road restrictions are lifted.

#### Price Breakdown

Code	Title	Description	Qty / Unit	Unit Price	Price
2000 - Excavation and backfill	Remove sod 80'x 15'	Remove sod and dispose of	8	200.00	\$1,600.00
1220 - Fill dirt and material	Soil purchase and delivery combined	Add up to 8" of soil as needed in excavated sod area 30 total yards. some areas maybe thicker some thinner per clients design request.	28	30.00	\$840.00
2000 - Excavation and backfill	Trees 3 cherry trees and 2 apples	Dig holes for 5 fruit trees and plant 2 trees to be moved from previous location. Grow Palmer to supply trees	1	0.00	\$0.00
2000 - Excavation and backfill	Metal edging vs plastic if possible	Install edging on both sides and ends of designated planting area 15'x80' (Plastic or metal)	1	400.00	\$400.00
Overhead	Cost of business	fuel	1	160.00	\$160.00
Profit	Waved one time for none profit organization		1	0.00	\$0.00

Total Price: \$3,000.00