**Gibbs House Property Redevelopment Plan**

**Living Fence**

**Definition:**
Single or multiple, ideally offset, rows of trees or shrubs that are established for one or more purposes. Multi-row and multi-species allow for proper risk management and gap protection. The effectiveness depends on developmental plant characteristics and spacing, combined to give density and porosity.

Above are the three different sections of the Gibbs House property living fence that have been identified. Red represents the food forest section, purple represents the backyard section, and blue represents the annual crop section. Each section was identified to have different primary functions, which needed to be considered in our intentional permaculture design.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Plant Species</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food Forest</td>
<td>Hazel Nut, Alder, Hybrid Poplar, Black Elderberry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Backyard</td>
<td>Hardy Kiwi, Grapes, Hops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Crops</td>
<td>Black Elderberry, Red Elderberry, Raspberry, Chokeberry, Big Blue Stem, Black-Eyed Susan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Above are the recommended plant species to establish in each of the different living fence sections. Plants were chosen of their contribution to the sections primary function; wind protection, visual screen, and noise block, as well as other secondary functions like beneficial wildlife habitat, harvestable fruit or material, etc.
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Native Landscape

The Gibbs House redevelopment will add about 1,500 square feet of additional native landscape beds to what already exists. We want to incorporate a monarch waystation as well as specific plants that provide ample amounts of nectar and pollen for insects, especially honey bees in our designs.

The many benefits of native landscaping include:

- Support for native wildlife; insects, birds, and more
- Better groundwater management and recharge
- Sequester more carbon than an average lawn
- Provide edible or materials harvest

We want to restore and sustain the biodiversity of Southwest Michigan through education and the practice of intentional permaculture design by planting a diverse assortment of native trees, shrubs, wildflowers, and grasses.

Above is a small representation of the native plant species selected for the Gibbs House gardens. These plaques will be placed in front of each species for campus and community education.