



**AGENDA ITEM EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Title:	Presentation of Sustainable Landscape Improvements at the St. Charles History Museum
Presenter:	Chris Adesso/Alison Costanzo

*Please check appropriate box:*

Government Operations	X	Government Services 04.27.15
Planning & Development		City Council

Estimated Cost:	\$0	Budgeted:	YES		NO	
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If NO, please explain how item will be funded:  
 No funding required for this project

**Executive Summary:**

Presentation of a sustainable landscape/programming project at the St. Charles History Museum. The projected improvements are focused on creating a new opportunity to engage the community through programming not previously available at the museum and consist of the following highlights:

- Repurposing the existing landscaping on the east side of the building to include native plants
- Incorporation of a rain barrel
- Installation of small raised bed for herbs and vegetables
- Placement of small interpretive signs
- Integration of a sustainable piece of art

This project is being fully supported through donations from the Park District, St. Charles Arts Council, Pizzo Native Plant Nursery, Fermi Lab, Primrose Farm and students from St. Charles East H.S.

**Attachments:** *(please list)*

Sustainability Project Summary from Alison Costanzo  
 Location Map of Project Improvements

**Recommendation / Suggested Action** *(briefly explain):*

For information only.

*For office use only:*      *Agenda Item Number: 5.o*

Sustainability Project  
St. Charles History Museum  
Alison Costanzo  
Executive Director

Why sustainability? For many museums including ours, preservation, education and sustainability go hand and hand. By repurposing the east garden bed of the museum to a native landscape, installing a rain barrel and raised bed for vegetables in our patio area we will be creating a new opportunity to engage our community in a different way. As part of this project we are also developing a temporary exhibit, small interpretive signs, and hands on educational programming. These programs will focus on history, nature, art and sustainability.

This project has also helped us strengthen and develop new community partnerships. The project is being supported by St. Charles Public Works, all of the new native plants are being donated to the Museum by Primrose Farm, Fermi Lab and Pizzo Native Plant Nursery. We are working closely with Hickory Knolls who is donating a rain barrel to the museum and Primrose Farm will be loaning the museum an old plow. We are also working with Erika Young the designer from the St. Charles Park District (see attached) to develop the interpretive signs that will be placed in conjunction with the native landscape, vegetables and rain barrel.

We would also like to integrate a sustainable art piece that would be on loan to the museum for the summer from the St. Charles Arts Council (see attached). The piece would be anchored with stakes in a grassed area to secure the art work. The piece is made from recycled metal and has a solar powered light.

We plan to have this project completed by late spring and ready for the American in Bloom judging. We are hoping to work with a number of groups to help with this project, from the naturalist group that is involved with Hickory Knolls, the National Honors club from St. Charles East as well as our staff, Board, interns and volunteers.

**The Rocket**

St. Charles Arts Council



# Exhibit Title

## Subtitle

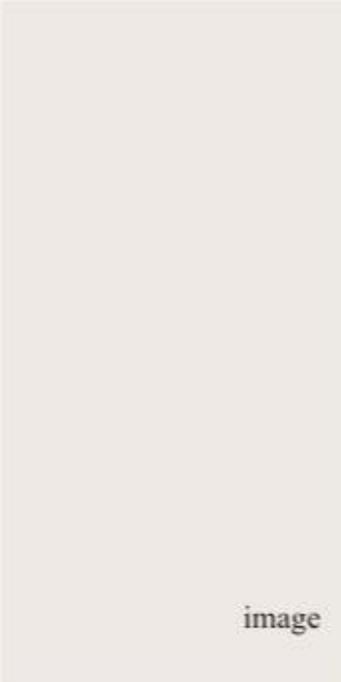
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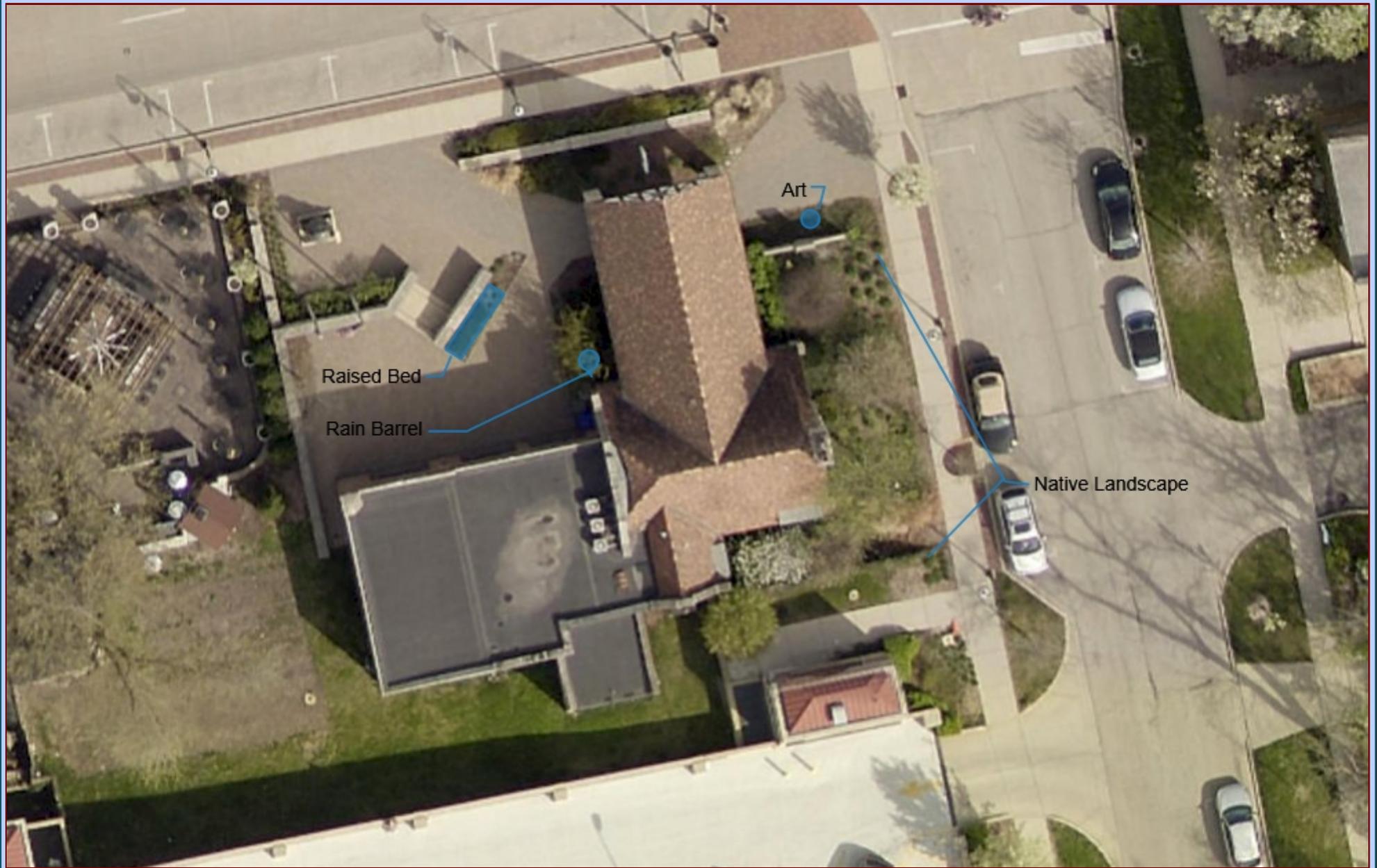


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Tuesday-Saturday..... 10am-4pm  
Sunday..... 12-4pm



Data Source:  
City of St. Charles, Illinois  
Kane County, Illinois  
DuPage County, Illinois  
Projection: Transverse Mercator  
Coordinate System: Illinois State Plane East  
North American Datum 1983  
Printed on: April 13, 2015 07:55 AM



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St. Charles History Museum - Sustainable Landscape Project

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