

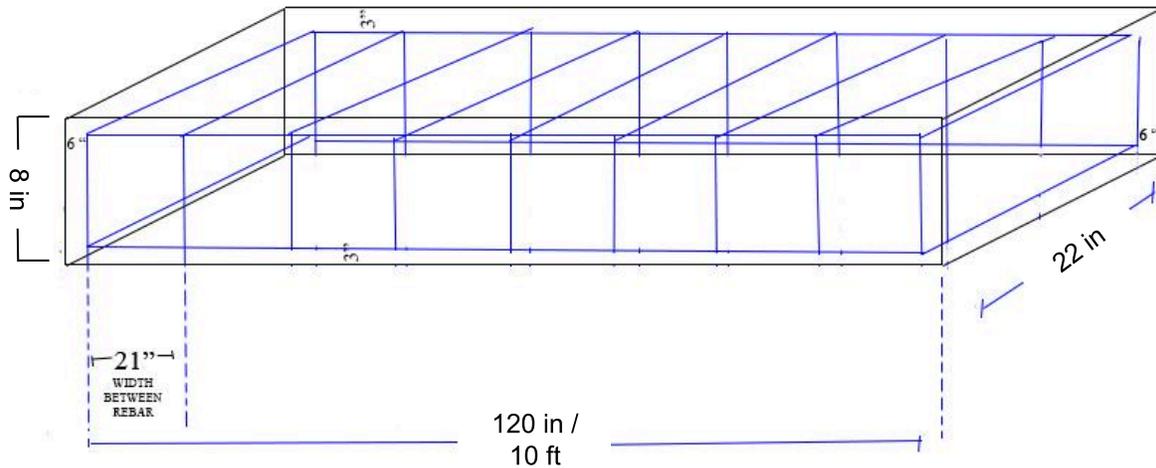
Project Proposal

11th Street Community Garden

Description

The garden's rear backs up to the neighboring building's trash receptacles. A chain-link fence is above the dirt. We would like to finish the concrete block spanning the entire 25-foot width of the garden's back. We have already completed a 15-foot concrete block, and the next part is to finish the next 10 feet. After completion, we will attach the wire mesh and green privacy cover directly to the fence.

Sketch



Benefits

By eliminating this dirt and replacing it with a solid wall of brick and concrete, the garden will be a more beautiful and cleaner environment. There should be fewer places in the garden for rats to live. This won't eliminate the rats; however, their breeding ground lies at the back end of their garden near the soft soil and garbage on the other side of the fence from the residential building.

Challenges

Preventing Concrete Cracking

We will reinforce the slab with a steel rebar cage inside the concrete forms. The ground will be padded with gravel to absorb any shifts and changes in the ground over time. No rebar will be exposed outside to the elements outside the slab.

Additional Maintenance

The wall should last for a fairly long time without maintenance. We should be proactive in treating cracks if they appear over time.

Funding

We estimate it will cost \$281.50 in materials. Tax not included.

- Concrete Mix - \$266 (50pcs - Sakrete 50 lb Crack Resistant)
- Gravel - \$17.50- (2 - 60lbs ¾" drainage gravel)

Delivery of materials should cost \$80. We will buy materials with our tax-exempt status through the Manhattan Land Trust. We expect a total of \$361.50 including delivery, so we are requesting a budget of **up to \$400** for this project.

Space

This project replaces the dirt at the foot of the back fence.

Timeline

The project is expected to be completed by the end of June. The project will take five work days, with at least five days for the concrete to dry. The final date depends on the availability of members. If ahead of schedule, the first three days could be completed together. We should not order concrete until work day III is **scheduled**.

- Day I - Dirt
- Day II - Gravel
- Day III - Rebar & Form
- Day IV - Concrete
 - Wait five days for concrete to dry
- Day V - Cleanup

Steward

The Special Projects Committee will lead this project with Ross.

Details

The project will take place at the foot of the back fence. The project should extend 22 inches from the fence. The slab should be between 8 and 10 inches high to meet the base of the fence and avoid letting rats go underneath. The slab should be 10 feet long to extend from the existing concrete slab to the west cinderblock wall of the property of 420 E 11th.

Day I - Dirt

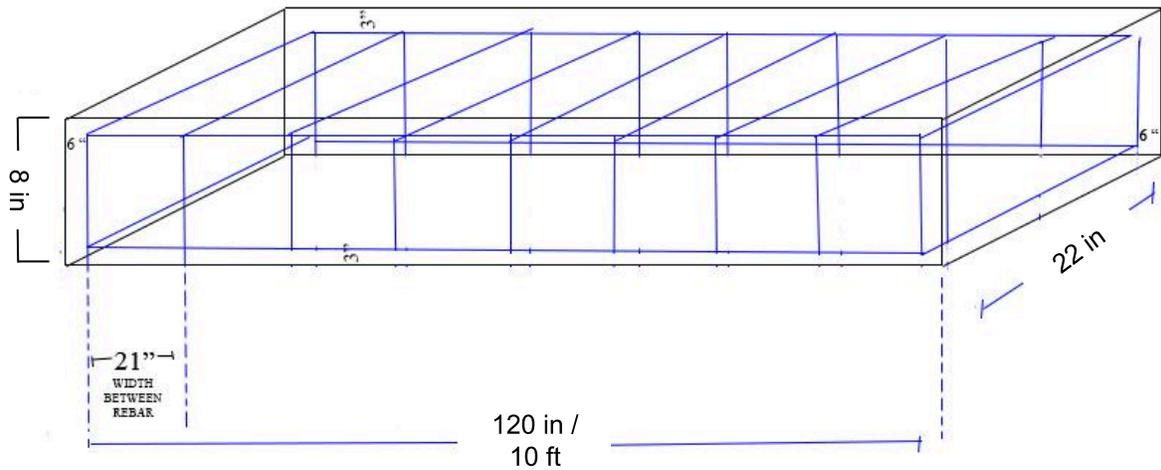
We need to establish a solid foundation for our slab. This starts with 2” dirt. We should carefully level and pack down the ground. There is a tree stump that we will work around. Using dirt and gravel to level out any pre-existing rock. We will be digging 5” below surface level to fill with dirt and gravel.

Day II - Gravel

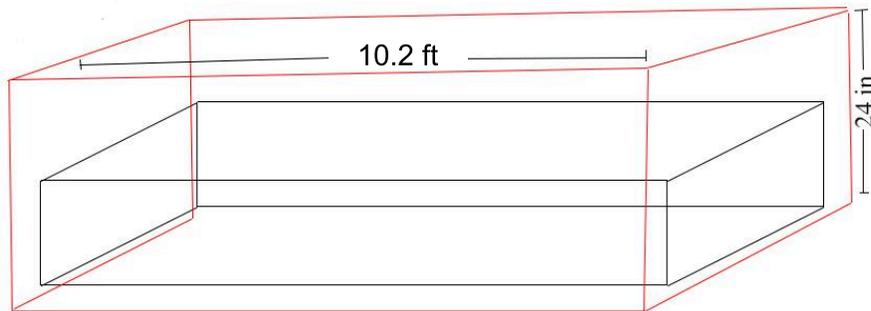
After packing and leveling the dirt, we should cover it with an even 3” layer of pebble gravel. We should again carefully level.

Day III - Rebar & Form

With our carefully leveled gravel complete, we can start prepping for our concrete pour. First, we must build a rebar cage that fits within our pour area. The bars need to be bound together with steel wire. We need to keep the rebar from sitting directly on the ground, so we should place it on some stones or plastic spacers. The rebar must not stick out of any side of the slab.



After constructing the rebar, we should build the concrete forms with our existing plywood. The wood should extend above the slab area to prevent overspill. We should be careful to avoid any gaps along the edges. At this point, we should try and fill any gaps between the rebar with aggregate.

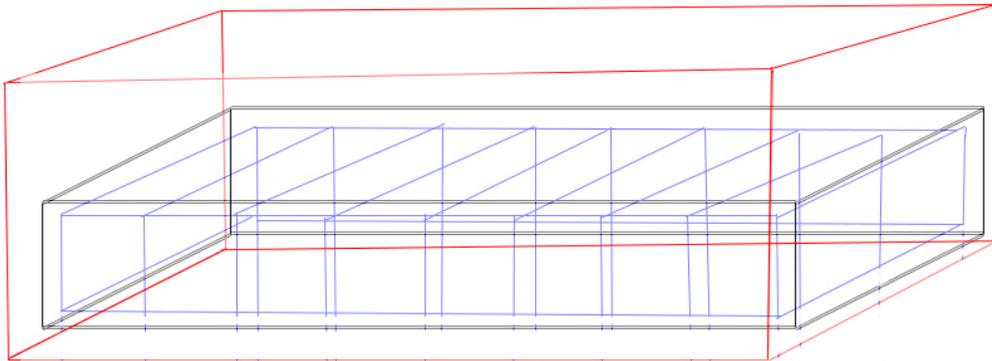


RED LINE INDICATES WOOD STRUCTURE

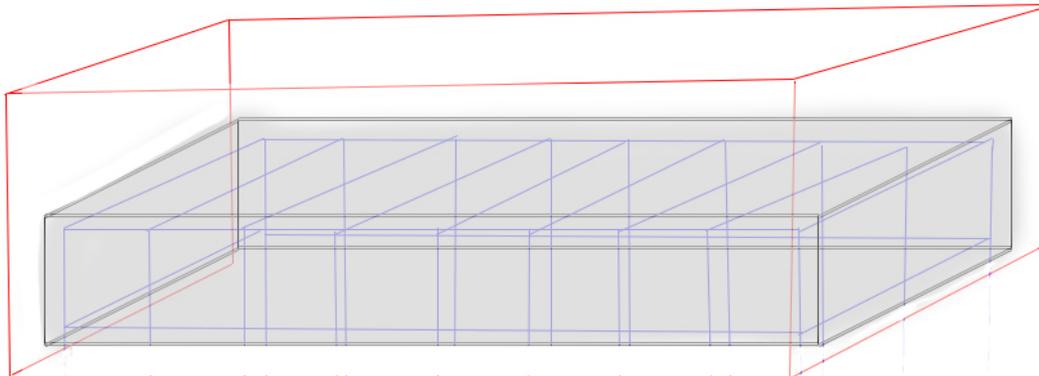
Day IV - Concrete Pour

After we have the form and rebar together, we can start pouring concrete.

The **PLYWOOD** is built around the **REBAR**



We should lay down a tarp to prevent concrete from getting on the ground. We plan on mixing the concrete inside the garden's concrete mixer. We can smooth over the top with the pointed concrete trowels we have. After the pour, we should double-check that there is no exposed rebar. We will cover the wet concrete pour with large plastic covers to weatherproof it.



After pouring we should make sure the concrete is covered in case of rain. The cover shouldn't directly touch the concrete so it can dry. We should try something similar to this:



Day V - Cleanup

Five days after the concrete dries, we can remove the plywood and reuse it. We should try to clean the surface of the concrete with rough sandpaper to make it relatively smooth. We should ensure there is no extra concrete where it shouldn't be and that all garbage related to the project is cleaned up.

Tools

We already have all the tools that we need in the garden.

- Temper for tamping gravel and dirt (see below)



- Shovel for digging foundation
- Circular saw for cutting plywood
- Angle grinder with metal blade for cutting rebar
- Pointed Concrete Trowels
- Concrete Mixer
- Mixing paddle with drill (see below)

