Tree planting Pilot

Groasis Waterboxx Plant Cocoon
November 2014 to April 2016

Friends of Brentwood Park

How can adopt-a-park groups plant trees in a low-cost method, using little water and just a handful of volunteers?

The Experiment

Hypothesis

The Groasis waterboxx Plant Cocoons would be an easy and affordable way to plant trees at Brentwood Park.

Materials

Trees were donated by TreeFolks
http://www.treefolks.org/

- 22 native tree saplings
- 22 Groasis Waterboxx Plant Cocoons
- 4 gallons of water per tree
- Gloves, spading fork or shovel
- Handful of volunteers

Step 1

a. Dig a hole the size of the Waterboxx.

b. Remove any plants or grass.







Step 2

a. Plant your native tree sapling.





Step 3

a. Check that the wick is in place. The wick moves the water from the basin to the tree.

b. Put the basin over the sapling and the wick on the soil near the tree.

c. Level the basin. Position the sapling in the center of one of the openings.







Step 4

a. Put the liner in place.







Step 5

a. Put on the lid.

b. Make sure the tree is in the opening.

c. Snap it in place.

d. Put in the two siphons (for water to enter the basin) and make sure the cap is on.

e. Pour in 4 gallons of water.







Step 6

a. As it rains, water is collected in the basin. The water slowly drains down the wick, onto the soil. No additional watering or care should be needed.

b. If trees die or are prematurely removed, they can be easily replaced.



Step 7

a. In one to two years, remove Waterboxxes, weed base, properly mulch, protect tree with wire/orange fencing.





CONCLUSION

The Groasis waterboxx Plant Cocoons were an easy and affordable way to plant trees at Brentwood Park.

Friends of Brentwood Park did a walk through on January 2015 to see which saplings needed to be replaced after 1 year in a Groasis waterboxx Plant Cocoon. Out of 22 trees planted, 2 saplings need to be replaced. Each year, we plant a few more trees using the Waterboxxes and have similar results.

Most Waterboxxes were able to be reused. A few waterboxxes were crushed and needed to be recycled/replaced.

No supplemental water was added-even in summer.

Costs
-Saplings donated (TreeFolks) Replacement saplings found at a local nursery for $2-3.
-Groasis Waterboxx Plant Cocoons $30.00 each.
-volunteer Time - One Installation day, Return in 1-2 yrs. to remove Waterboxx & replace with tree guards/mulch

Total avg. cost $30.00 per tree.

Recommendation

Friends of Brentwood Park would recommend Groasis Waterboxx Plant Cocoons for Adopt-A-Park Groups and any public space where maintenance and resources are a concern.

For more information, please visit

Brentwood Park for a tour

Groasis https://www.groasis.com/en

TreeFolks http://www.treefolks.org/

Emily Wilson emily.wilson8596@gmail.com