2016

Solar Garden Website

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Solar Garden Website

ENS 201: Intro. to Environmental Studies and Sustainability
Gracey Mussina, Cara Maney, Christina Fox, and Elise Riffle
The team

Answer the question, “Why are we the ones to solve the problem we identified?”

Gracey Mussina
Major: Writing
Minor: Environmental Studies
Year: Senior

Cara Maney
Major: Geography
Minor: Environmental Studies
Year: Junior

Christina Fox
Major: Psychology
Minors: French and Environmental Studies
Year: Senior

Elise Riffle
Major: Writing
Minor: English and Environmental Studies
Year: Senior
Community Partners

Terry Pahl
  Provided our group with exceptional information, pictures, and research to move forward with creating a website for our peers.

Consumers Energy
  Maintenance and operation
Problem statement: We, as a community, need an easily accessible and manageable website with information regarding the solar garden.
Other Stakeholders

Community
Grand Valley
Peers
Consumers Energy
Problem analysis

What program will we use?
If we use the GVSU software where will you find it? ENS?
Who do we contact to get access to this website software?
What new information do we need to find?
Who do we contact to get this information?
Of this information, which do we see important enough to put on the website?
What are our peers going to be looking for when on the website?
After creating the website, will it actually be used?
Is our information interesting enough?
Timeline of project (Proposed Solutions)

**Week 1**
- Create groups/ meet members
- Decide project -- website

**Week 2**
- Brainstorm
- → wix.com?
- CMS4

**Week 3**
- Brainstorm ideas for information
- Sort through information provided by previous class
- Get in touch with Terry Pahl
- How much flexibility do we have/ what can we actually do?
- Wait for access to CMS4

**Week 4**
- Organize information
- Gain access to software
- Begin adding information to the website

**Week 5**
- Finishing touches
- Create presentation
- Talk to KP about final product
Problems

Advantages/benefits

Limitations/barriers
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Advantages</th>
<th>Limitations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CMS4 is uniform, easy to use, and clear</td>
<td>CMS4 does not leave room for creativity and new ideas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information provided from previous group/Terry Pahl was detailed and helpful</td>
<td>CMS4 has a limit on file sizes (60kb) resulting in low resolution images</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terry provided an attachment of a slide show containing the construction process/pictures</td>
<td>Had to wait ~3 weeks to begin project/ waiting on access and info.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little “new” information was needed before beginning our project</td>
<td>Can’t change images to desired size</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Using best language and grammar to increase site’s readability.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
“Final” Product

http://wwwtest.gvsu.edu/ens/solargarden/
Next Steps?

● Make a video
  ○ Students displaying information in a more entertaining manor
  ○ Drone camera?
● Student involvement → Artprize piece / other projects
  ○ Interconnect and keep updated
● Solar energy with other fields of study
● Who will keep the website updated?
Contact Information

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Christina: chrissyfox95@gmail.com
Elise: riffleel@mail.gvsu.edu
“Because we are now running out of gas and oil, we must prepare quickly for a third change, to strict conservation and to the use of coal and permanent renewable energy sources, like solar power.”

**Jimmy Carter**  
APRIL 19, 1977

“Clearly, we need more incentives to quickly increase the use of wind and solar power; they will cut costs, increase our energy independence and our national security and reduce the consequences of global warming.”

**Hillary Rodham Clinton**  
OCTOBER 25, 2005