

Youth Water and NR Education



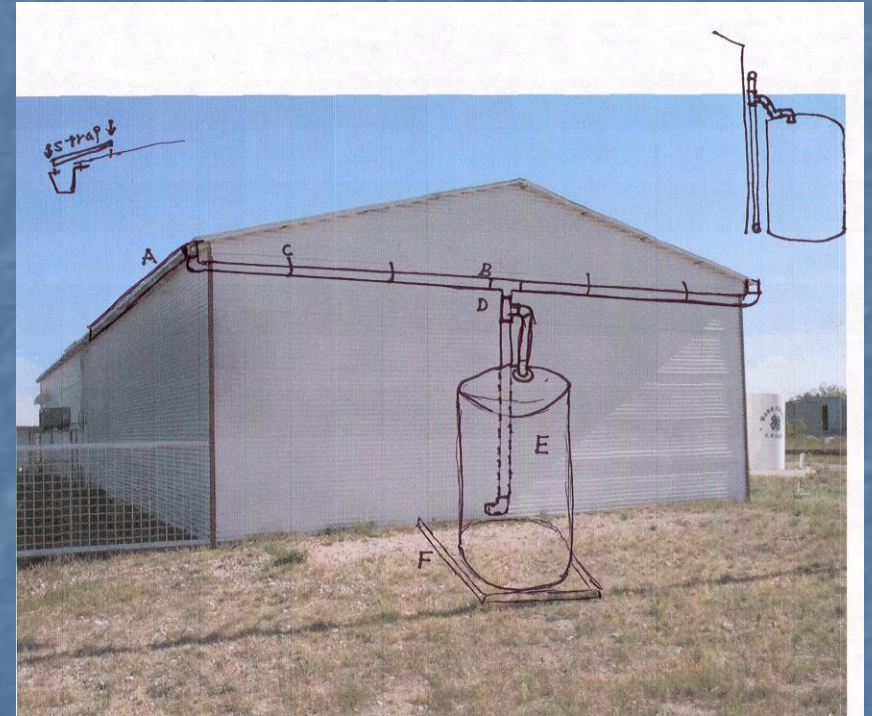
■ Paint Rock Rain Collection and the Chow Ming of Concho County



Wall Grade School



Monahans Rainwater Collection



Container Gardening with 5th Grade Using Drip & Rainwater



Container Gardens



Burn at High School and 10 months later





School Burn Temperature Recording





**Grass Clipping
Demo.**



**School
Landscaping**

Root Growth Display and Collecting water From Air Conditioner



School Wildscape and Water 1000 g. Collection



Drip Emitter on Bird Bath from Rainwater



NR Education Day 4th & 5th Grade



Habitat Game

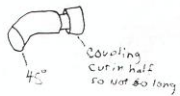


Rain Simulator

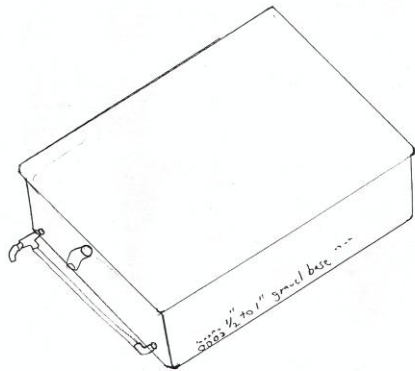
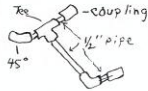


Rain Simulator Plans

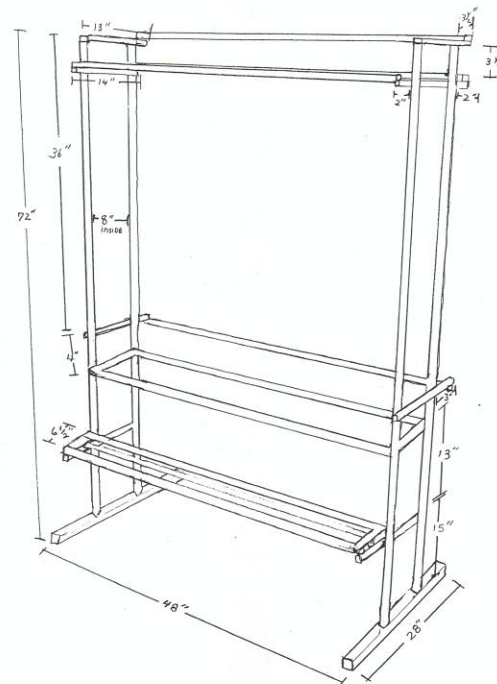
TOP DRAIN 1/4" PVC



Bottom Drain 1/2" HOT WATER PVC



- o soil up to spout
- Smooth cover of fine gravel
- oooo - single layer of 1/2 to 3/4 gravel



RAIN SIMULATOR PLANS

The rain simulator in Hays County (San Marcos) Texas was built with the help of Billy Kniffen, County Extension Agent and David Cox, wildlife biologist at South West Texas State University. The concept was taken from the NRCS rain simulators. The idea to build a low cost, portable, adaptable tool to give visual application to good land stewardship and natural resources conservation. The design can be changed and improved as imagination is applied and containers are made to represent local concerns and needs.

Frame: welded square tubing

- a. main frame - 3/4" tubing for major framing
- b. base - 1" tubing
- c. 1/2" - smaller braces and under square water catchment containers

Large plastic containers for top and to put plants in - 11" by 17" by 6" storage containers from Walmart

Needles in top 4 containers - 18 gauge 1" needles. Set on 2" spacings offset between rows. Total of 48 per container.

Water catching jugs - 5" square storage clear plastic containers from Walmart

Runoff spout - 1 1/4" PVC coupling, short pipe to connect coupling to 45 degree elbow.

Hole cut so 1" section 1 1/4" fits through and PVC cement connects union snug to box.

Ground Water piping - 1/2" hot water PVC connections. (See diagram).

Planting containers:

- bottom layer - 1/2 to 3/4" gravel - one layer thick
- next layer - 1/4 to 1/2" thick layer of small gravel.

Top layer of:

- grassland prairie - dug up plants or transplanted native grasses in good soil with good organic matter and dead debris on top between plants.
- overgrazed area - soil with little to no organic matter mudded in similar to a compaction layer by cattle. Plants of low succession and no litter on top.
- turf - of common turf for area. May buy fresh sod being sold or cut out to fit container.
- mulched plant - soil with good organic matter and 2-3" of mulch.
- paved or covered area to represent impervious layer with possibly Kool-aid sprinkled on top to represent contamination. Used perlite with hard plastic cover sealed around with silicone.

Use armadillo shell to represent wildlife. They eat insects in healthy environment - overgrazed area with shell - indicates insects gone by hot bare soil temperature - so armadillo died.

Broken bottle - what is our generation leaving behind as our legacy? An all for now and none for later? Or will we be responsible people that improve the natural resources and pass them on to the next generation better than we found them.

Trash Can Waterer



Wildlife Water Guzzler



Ft. McKavett NR Tour



Raindrop Splash



Water Infiltration Collar



Rainfall off the Roof, From a Gutter to a Rain Barrel



Paired Watershed



Youth Observing and Pouring Water



Pouring and Watching Runoff



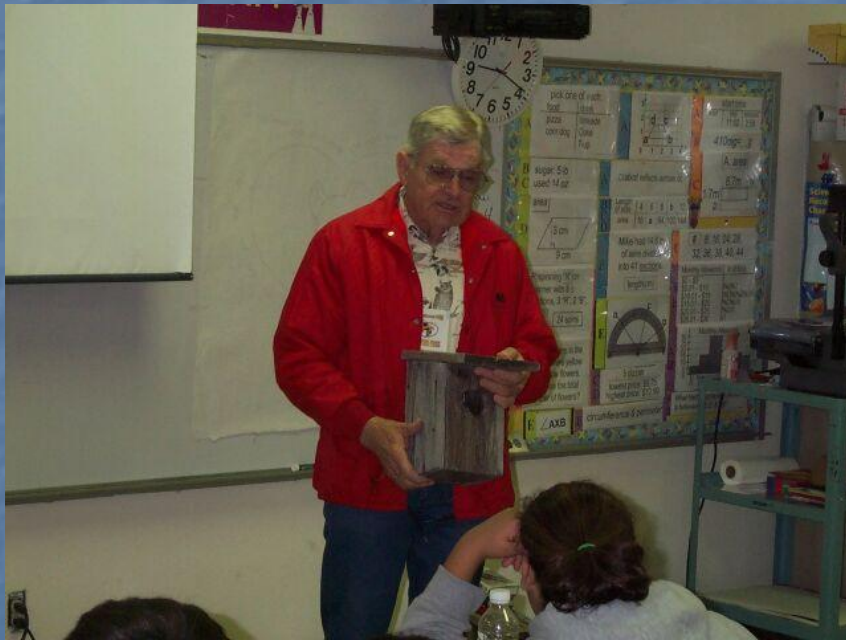


Rain Fun



NR Education at School

Bluebird Boxes Indian Face painting



School Landscaping and Mulching & Picking Up Trash



Outdoors Day

2003 - 2006

Menard 1st – 8th Grade

- Fishing
- Outdoor cooking
- Seining the river
- Exploring for fossils and artifacts
- Kayaking or canoeing
- Pressed flower bookmarks
- Wildlife tracks, skulls and hides
- Archery, Bike Safety

Out Doors Kids Day using Kayaks in 8x16 Pond



Ecosystem and Purple Martins



Fish Painting and Water Quality











For Information Contact:
Billy Kniffen
Menard County Extension
Agent – Ag/NR
e-mail: b-kniffen@tamu.edu
325-396-4787