



## OUTDOOR CLASSROOM CASE STUDY # 1

Lillian M. Dunfee School K-5  
25 Birdsall Street, Barnegat NJ  
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### WILDLIFE LANDSCAPING AND WIND CONTROL

**The PROBLEM:**

“Sand Blasting” on the playground (see photo to the right)

**The SOLUTION:**

Creating a large windbreak across the playground & planting a row of shrubs to block the wind adjacent to the school.

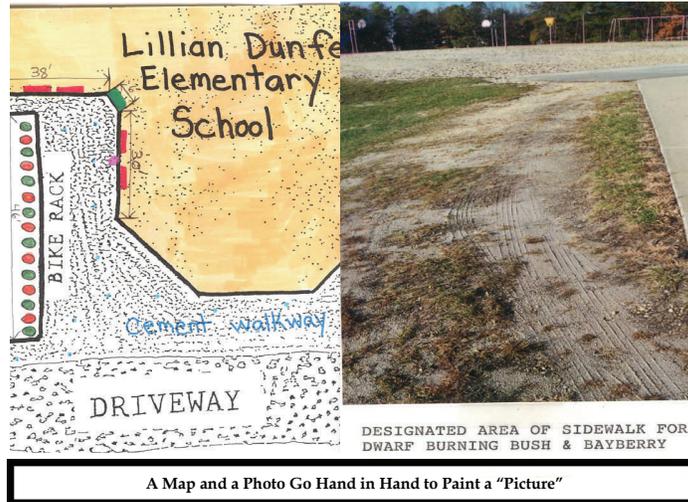
Map on the right:

Green circles—Bayberry

Red Circles: Dwarf Burning Bush

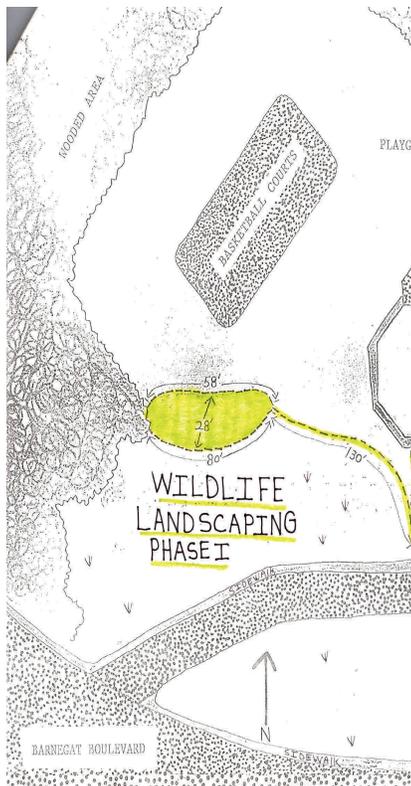
**The \$ Thing:**

- A \$500 grant was received from the OCSCD in 1996
- Additional funds were obtained through the Barnegat Garden Club also, many of the items such as bird feeders, bird baths, wood chips, mulch, etc. were donated from local businesses.



The basic premise of this outdoor classroom is to exemplify the value of plants to both people and wildlife. Beautification, wind blocking, and increased wildlife habitat all play a role in this school site’s incorporation of plants into the overall design.

Because this school was surrounded by a wooded area, vandalism of the school site was a major problem after hours. The bird feeders were not permanently mounted and were brought inside at the end of each day to help alleviate this problem. Eventually, the vandals lost interest!



In addition to planting an 80 foot line of trees to act as a windbreak for the playground, the design incorporated a series of bird feeding areas. These included bird baths and bird feeders at intervals along a wood chipped pathway system and were augmented with planting of wildlife plants including inkberry and mountain laurel. This drawing/plan also includes some of the permanent features that must be considered: water drains, well head, sprinklerhead, fence location, etc.



*Students from all grade levels in this K-5 school participated in the Outdoor Classroom Project.*