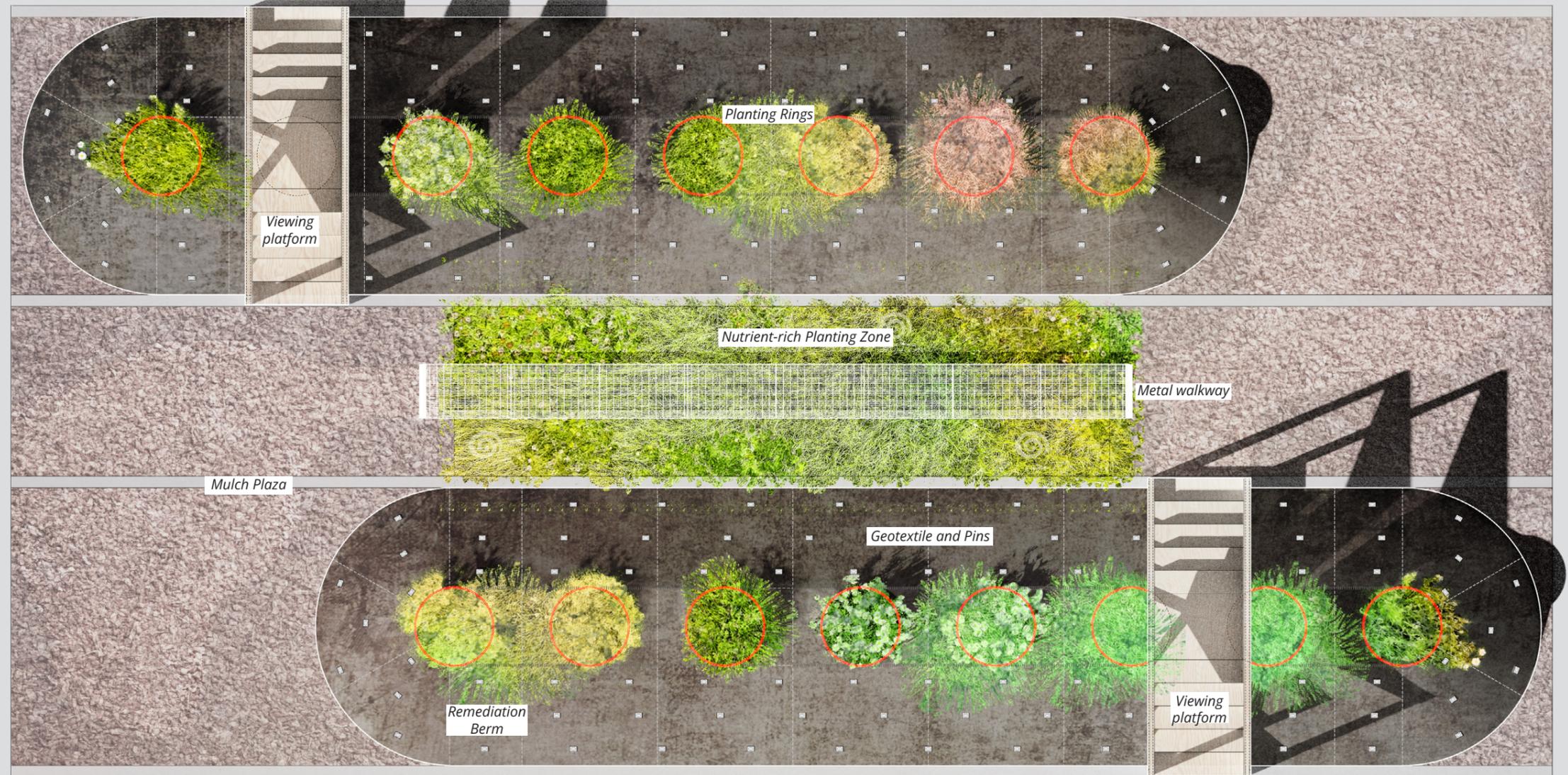


EARTH IN REPOSE

Repose, a term originally referring to a period of restorative rest, today is most often used with reference to the slope angle of a stable pile of soil. Earth in Repose celebrates the restorative potential of resting mounded soil, particularly as mineral and organic substrates are reinforced and interpenetrated by a complex of native and naturalized plants that regulate nitrogen, break down organic pollutants, and sponsor beneficial microbial environments.

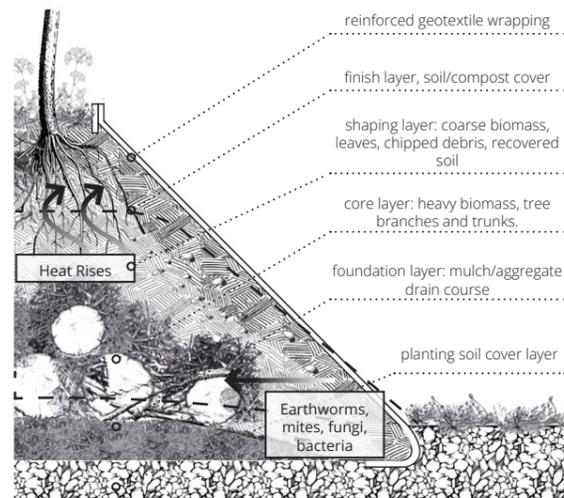
The project consists of two 16-meter long berms, wrapped and pinned in reinforced geotextile fabric, each topped with eight steel planting rings. Each 42 cubic meter berm is built on a core of coarse biomass taken from demolished gardens currently occupying the site, ensuring that a previous generation of demonstration gardens is fully recycled into the current garden environment. The 16 planting rings each holds a different mix of plants with suitable rhizospheric properties, that can be monitored for performance over time. Two simple, sliding plywood platforms assist in the berm-construction process and are later used as observation platforms straddling each berm.

The berms are slowly-evolving sculptures of internal and external dynamics. The sloped surfaces are informed by pile-composting bio-remediation techniques and recall traditional Hügeltkultur permaculture practices. The reinforced geotextiles allow moisture and oxygen exchange, stimulating increased phyto-remedial activity and changing throughout the day and through the seasons. Ultimately, when the garden is removed, the remediated soils may be unwrapped and distributed to the community or reused in the next generation of display gardens.



Site plan 0 1 2 3 3.5m

Remediation Berm



Raised Beds: inside the beds, soil organisms provide fertilizer and heat

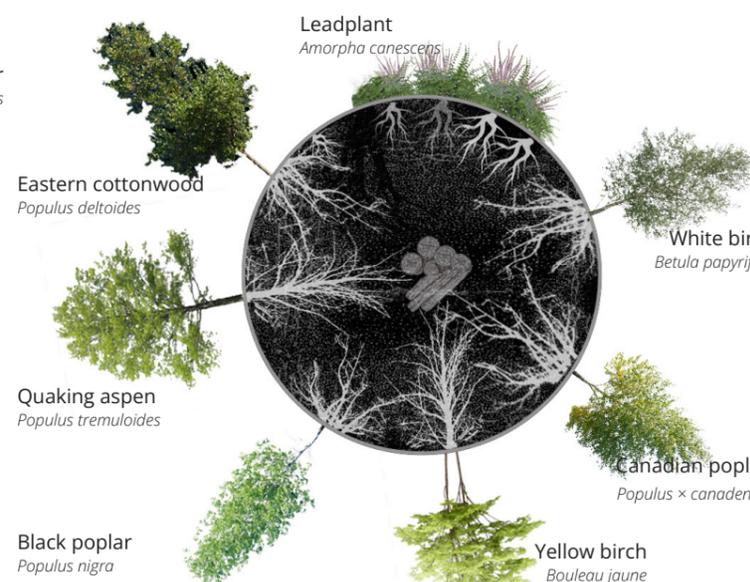
Rhizodegradation

A variety of plants to support organic compound degradation at surface and depth of VOCs and other residual contaminants. Root exudates and other enzymes that help sponsor beneficial microbial soil environment.



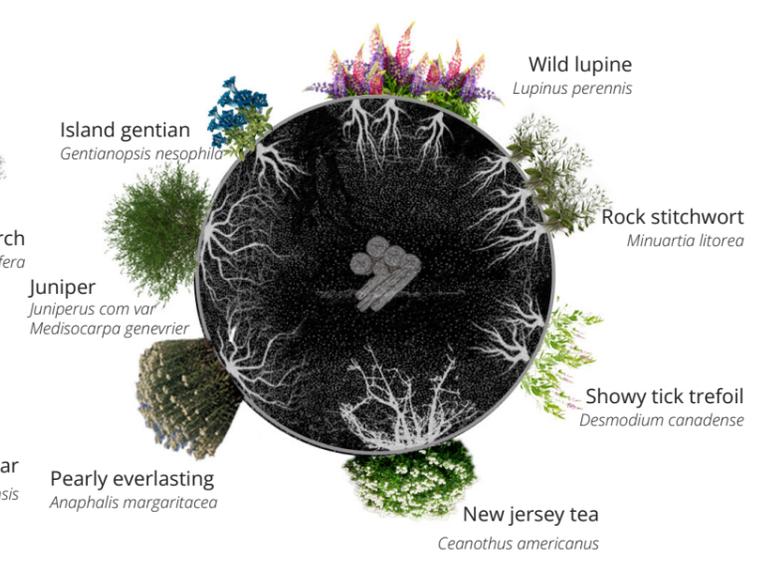
Deep Rooted (Phreatophytes)

Develop significant root biomass to 1.5m to support forms of nutrient fixing and biodegradation within full soil profile and help establish mycorrhizal networks deep within the windrow



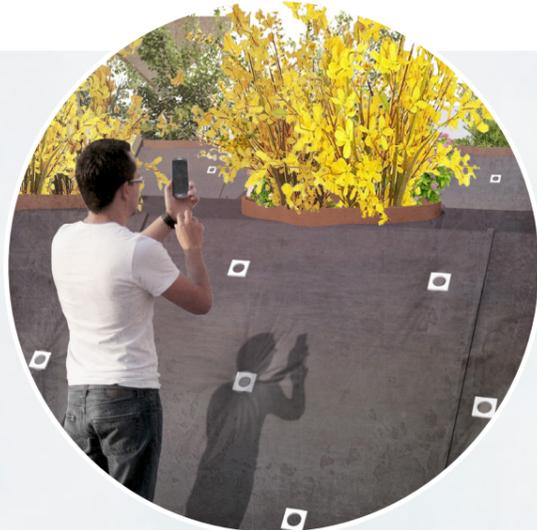
Nitrogen Fixing

Local soils are likely deficient in macro-nutrients like Nitrogen. Plants that sponsor rhizobia bacteria help return nitrogens to soils upon decay.





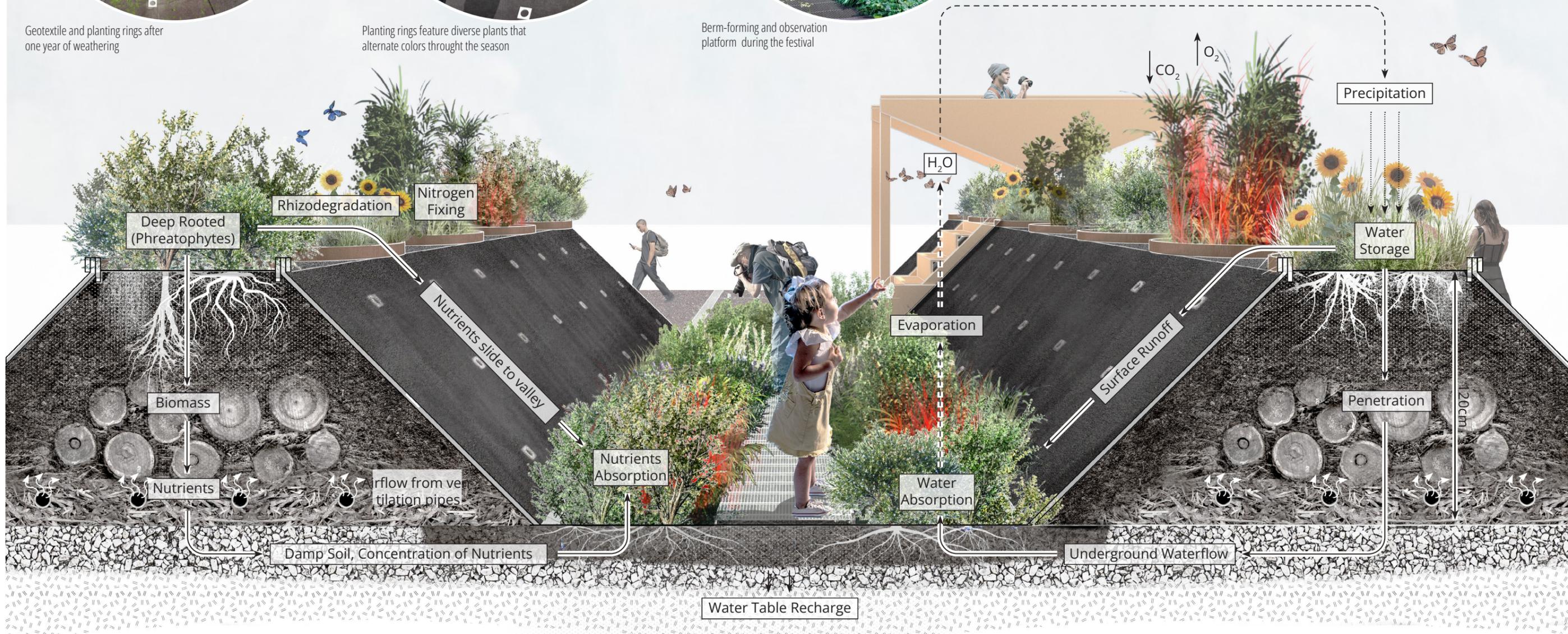
Geotextile and planting rings after one year of weathering



Planting rings feature diverse plants that alternate colors through the season



Berm-forming and observation platform during the festival



Construction sequence

- 1 Harvest biomass from former garden exhibits.
- 2 Windrow preparation with drainage base and aeration pipes
- 3 Layout windrows with geotextile base
- 4 Place layers of heavy organic debris, plant-waste, and starter compost.
- 5 Finish with layer of soil/peat mix to specified slope and height.
- 6 Wrap and stake windrow with geotextile sandwich
- 7 Place 8, 1m steel planting cores,
- 8 Build and slide into place overlook stair.
- 9 Plant and Seed Vegetation
- 10 Festival Period
- 11 Post Festival Plant and Soil Development
- 12 Unwrap the bag and reuse the soil for the next festival