OUR VISION

Improvement of the Arboretum's facilities will support our vision to enhance and expand teaching, research, and outreach programs and achieve national recognition as a leader in hands-on science education, teacher training, and plant conservation. The icons below indicate the amenities proposed and the dotted lines show location.

Existing Amenities

- RAILROAD
- GARDENS
- RAILROAD

Timeline

Immediate Concerns

Short Term Goals

Long Term Goals

Invasive Species Removal

An experienced contractor will bring invasive species to a level that can be maintained by Arboretum staff with assistance from students and volunteers.

Garden Shed

A new, larger garden shed is required to store tools used by students and volunteers to maintain the children's and community gardens.

Pollinator Garden

The Arboretum will participate in University efforts to establish habitat for bees and butterflies by planting native wildflowers.

Sustainable Garden Partnership

As the sustainable community garden outgrows its current space, this area will be available to continue efforts with additional partners from campus and the Tuscaloosa community.

Visitor Center and Geoscience

To support growth in our programs, the Arboretum requires an indoor space with exhibits, a large meeting lab, larger restrooms, and offices. An attached conservatory will house plants on public display.

European Gardens

This new themed garden inspired by Tuscaloosa's heritage will attract additional visitors and provide a unique experience.

Playground and Splashpad

A playground for children inspired by and immersed in nature built for crawling, jumping, climbing, and splashing. The former shop foundation will be reused for a gazebo looking out on the playground.

Main Garden and Sculpture Trail

Inspired by gardens of Japan, this area will feature native southeastern and exotic Asian 'shadow' aspects of plants. Concrete footings for exhibition of student and professional sculpture.

Trail Erosion Control

Arboretum staff and University facilities will develop a plan to repair and maintain the Arboretum's trails with the assistance of an experienced contractor, students, and staff.

New Greenhouse

A modern, climate-controlled greenhouse will replace the existing worn and outdated greenhouses to better support research and conservation efforts.

Pine Forest Citizen Science Research Plot

A research plot will be established in the existing pine forest. Students and members of the public will learn about the environment by collecting and comparing ecological data.

Hardwood Forest Citizen Science Research Plot

A research plot will be established in the existing hardwood forest. Students and members of the public will learn about the environment by collecting and comparing ecological data.

Tractor Shed

The current storage shed does not meet the expected needs for additional equipment necessary for our expanded programs. Relocation of this shed will improve vehicle access to and aesthetics of the arboretum.

Please note: This map is for conceptual purposes only and does not represent approved and funded projects. A detailed master plan will be developed in the next year to finalize improvements, timelines, and costs.