PROJECT REPORT

Building a garden is building community, sustaining that community is the goal.

Written By

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ABOUT US

Our project, is a web application that connects volunteers & garden leaders in an efficient manner. It serves as a task manager and aims to promote community involvement through gardening. In the long term, the plan is to partner with local businesses to incentivize volunteers through points that can be redeemed for tasks completed on the platform. This will help bring the community together and improve local food systems.

We are the pioneers in localizing our food economy.

The inspiration for Bloomtown comes from Garden Your Own Growth, a program organized by the non-profit Earth Rebirth in Norman, OK. The program brings gardens to local schools as an educational opportunity and a source of fresh produce for school cafeterias. However, the biggest challenge has been managing the gardens without overburdening a few individuals. Bloomtown aims to solve this problem by enabling teachers and garden leaders to schedule tasks and send push notifications to a pool of volunteers who will be incentivized to complete the tasks through points that can be redeemed at local businesses.

ABOUT OUR MVP

For our MVP, we are focusing on building the structure of our database, implementing search functionality for both volunteers and leaders, and delivering a user-friendly interface.

We have identified 3 main objectives for the project:

1. Helping teachers and community garden leaders to organize and delegate tasks
2. Incentivizing individuals to participate in community gardening
3. Creating simple and effective tools to manage community garden tasks

Bloomtown
aka The Garden Network

TECH STACK OVERVIEW

We have chosen a tech stack comprising Neo4j (a graph database with the Cypher query language), Node.js, the Express web framework, the EJS view engine, Javascript, CSS, HTML, Bootstrap Studio, and Heroku.

My partner will focus mainly on the back-end development, while I will handle the front-end, with regular check-ins to ensure a seamless flow for the application.

our process

To start, I created mock-ups to verify the UI/UX and identify the data properties we needed to access from the Neo4j database. Using Bootstrap Studio, I developed a responsive design for the website.

One of the main challenges I encountered was dynamically rendering data on the site. This required me to learn how to access Neo4j from a web application, display data dynamically on a webpage, and work with the object format of a graph database. I also had to utilize the EJS template engine. Despite these challenges, I was able to overcome them and successfully implement the necessary functionality.

PROGRESS OF OUR PROJECT

We were able to make significant progress on the project in just one month. The database, which required numerous connections, performed well and the user interface was designed to be both efficient and user-friendly. We are very proud of the work we were able to accomplish in such a short time and look forward to continuing this work in the future.

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