



"Living Sculpture" Project 4-H Youth Building NYS Fairgrounds Phase 1: April 19, 2008 Phase 2: NYS Fair, 8/21 - 9/1/2008



What happens when you take a mound of dirt...



some pressure-treated lumber, boxes of mosaic tile...



and rolls of Sod donated by Batavia Turf? Then add to the mix...

...Two very skilled adults: Christine Hadekel, Cornell Garden Based Learning Program, and Danielle Hodgins, Cornell student; along with a group of very excited 4-H teens and adult volunteers?



You've got the resources to make a YOUTH ACTION PROJECT conceived at STARR 2007, a reality during STARR 2008!

The
Power
of Youth 



Teens gained new skills and knowledge as they played in the mud, formed dirt and water into the shape of a couch, fastened chicken wire to reinforce the overall design, and covered the mud and chicken wire sculpture with sod, to create a double-sided couch.



This very special, comfy outdoor "hangout" was designed and built by youth, especially for youth. The purpose of this area is to create an 'environmentally-friendly' and 'comfortable' outdoor space where youth can sit, chat, and relax while working at the NYS fair. Sod sofas are but one type of Living Sculpture, art forms made from using live plant material.



Once the couch was finished, it was time to work on the mosaic tabletop.



So many tiles...so many choices....



In time...the design took shape....



This project is a testament to the creativity, energy and ability of youth to make great things happen in their club, community, country and world when given the opportunities and supports to do so.