

FOSC Native Plant Nursery: Then and Now



2003



2005



2016

- Between 2003 and 2005 volunteers added a tool shed (far left) and green house (far right). The tool shed now has a roll-up metal door—much more secure.
- The white 3-shelf rack provides off-the-ground storage for clean pots; it was an Eagle Scout project.
- The big green tank and a nearby pump solved a recurring low-pressure water problem that led to the demise of hundreds of our plants.
- The pump is electric: We survived for our first decade with no electricity.
- The new shaded growing area structure replaced the failing funky eucalyptus structure. The netting not only provides shade, it reduces weed seeds reaching the pots.
- In the shaded work area, there is now a 2-sink pot washing station and several wooden work tables.
- In the shade house and the sunny growing area, all plants are now on wooden tables to keep them from contact with any soil pathogens. (More Eagle Scout projects!)
- The white frame in the sunny growing area is covered with bird netting to keep our avian buddies from pulling up our tiny grass and bulb seedlings.
- Dead center in the photo is an irrigation riser: The irrigation in both growing areas was completely revamped.
- On the fence above the shade house you can see the white signs on the fence, identifying the plants in our drought-tolerant native plant demonstration garden.
- While there are still some weeds visible in our mulch, most of it looks pretty great, a testament to persistence in knocking down the annual grasses year after year.
- On the hillside behind the water tank, you can see a portion of the area we're slowly turning into a coastal scrub and native grassland planting.
- Totally invisible behind the shade house are three "runner beds" built by an Eagle Scout for planting species that "root and run." Many of them spread quickly to provide us many divisions.
- Also hidden by the shade house is the set of new steps just completed by another Eagle Scout.

--Karen Paulsell