

# High Tunnel

By Tom Finn, Dave Phelps, Curt Mohler, and Elena Tinoco

## How it all began...

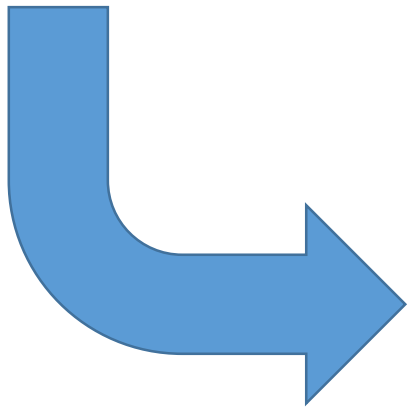
The location was selected, parameters were set, and the foundation was built.

Gravel was brought in to fill the frame.



## More Gravel...

You can see a marker where the box was planned to be built.



## Boxing it Up...

After every 3 inches of gravel was added we used a gas powered compactor to compress and solidify the base.

We added gravel on the sides to keep the frame from buckling outward.



# Framed!!!

So much gravel went into this box! The backhoe was a helpful tool for carrying and spreading the gravel.



Perfect edges...

Habitat Restoration volunteer Dave Phelps brought a laser line level from his tool shop to help with alignment. Dave is always bringing his tools.



# Challenges...

Looks like this was a piece of cake, right?

Think again!



Setting the posts was the most troublesome part of this project. It took so much time and effort.

I was worried we would never get this thing built.

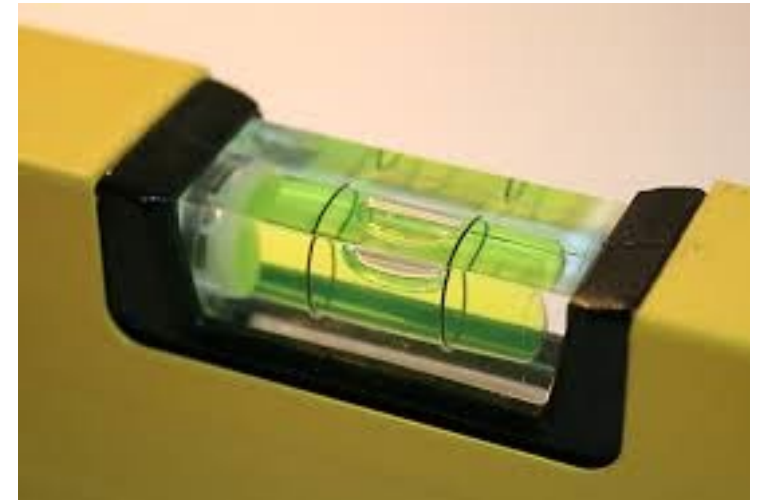




How many Habitat folks does it take to level a post?



4



## Not your ordinary level...

You would have to slowly inch your way up, down, or side to side. The in hand tool would sense the laser on the tripod and show you where to go with arrows.

Often times not breathing while watching 3 other things...



## Laser Line Level...

The laser line level was an amazing tool that I loved and hated.

More often than not you would have pounded the post in too far and have to start over. Sometimes all it would take to set it out of place was a tiny tap.



## Featuring...

Tom Finn

Curt Mohler

Dave Phelps

Filling in post holes with  
concrete to stabilize.



I thought this day  
would never come...

It takes a village!!



We have lift off!!!





Posts are set and it is starting to take shape





**Wow!**

Here the posts and arches are up. A center support post helps with rigidity.



Side beams are being installed



## Posts...

Four large posts were put in. One for each corner. The holes dug for each one was about 4 feet deep! To fill each hole we needed three bags of concrete!



## Finishing touches...

The side boards and runners are in place. Now securing the beams and cutting off extra metal and post.



Oooh Shelves!



## Wrapping things up...

Plastic walls being attached to side boards and frame.









Second wall up...



## Topping things off...

Volunteers from the Wednesday work party helping speed this process along! The roof was set and side panels were finished.





## All closed up...

The roll up door is on. A gravel ramp was built so we could get a side by side up on the pad and into the structure.



Inside..

In order to keep heat in when the door is rolled up, we will be adding strips of plastic like you see in grocery stores

Planting boxes are the next step.

