

## **GROVES OF TREES**

There are several areas near the statue garden where groves can be dedicated. Between the statue garden and the main parking lot lies 8 acres of alfalfa field. The future of this area is to be a tree filled park for the enjoyment of all who visit. Located in the center of the Jocko Valley, this will be a haven for birds and a shady rest for travelers. In each grove six trees, 1" to 1.5" diameter, will be planted about 20 feet apart and intermixed with six shrubs and several perennial flowers, or as a variation of these basic components. Each grove location is unique and deserves the special eye of our master gardener to blend aesthetically and practically with the surrounding landscape and water source. You can choose from both conifers and deciduous trees. A dedication plaque near a tree is included in your sponsorship. Please see below to add a bench or picnic table.

## **FEATURE AREAS**

On the cardinal directions are statues of the Buddhas of the 3 times. In front of these statues is a garden 30' wide on the long side of a stylized triangle, measuring 30' to its point. Varieties of shrubs, perennial flowers and herbs, ground cover plants and landscape stones ornament these beautiful beds, which are placed before the Buddhas as an offering to their great wisdom, lovingkindness and generosity. Your dedication plaque will be placed on a post or stone in the flowerbed, or on a bench along the pathway nearby. Full weed mat, underground watering and wood chip ground cover are included.

## **EIGHT FOLD PATH BEDS**

The garden is in the shape of a Dharmachakra, or Dharma Wheel. The direction each spoke radiates represents an aspect of the eight-fold path to enlightenment which was taught by Buddha Shakyamuni. These are the qualities we wish to accomplish in order to live an awakened, beneficial life. Each of the 8 sections of the garden has flowerbeds along the paths which lead us past each of the 1,000 Buddha statues. These beds contain approximately 2,000 square feet of perennial plants, small shrubs, and landscape stones. Underground drip lines are on an automated system, weed cloth, wood chip cover are included, and volunteer and staff gardeners care for these and the open lawn they surround. These are the largest areas of sponsorship in the garden, and donors may place as many as 4 dedication plaques on stakes inside the flowerbeds. This option is ideal for large families, sister organizations, and group efforts

as well as for individuals. You can choose to sponsor the section which represents the aspect of the 8 fold path which is especially meaningful to you.

### **RIM OF THE WHEEL BEDS**

Each of the 8 sections has a flowerbed along the inside of the wheel's 'rim', on which the stupas sit. The rim of the Dharma Wheel represents meditation, and the turning of the mind toward awakening and away from greed, hatred and dualism. These perennial plant beds are 150 feet in length and 4' wide. Being against the wall, these beds offer a variety of growing conditions, allowing for creative plant choices, which you can work with our gardeners to choose. Automated drip watering systems and weed barrier cloth are beneath natural wood chip cover.

### **INDIVIDUAL TREES**

A tree can be sponsored and placed in a designated spot in an area of the garden, and have a dedication plaque staked near the root. You can work with our gardeners to choose an appropriate species.

### **6 SHRUBS OR PLANT VARIETIES**

Shrubs and plants can also be sponsored without a dedication plaque. You can consult our garden staff for species choices and locations.

### **PICNIC TABLE OR GARDEN BENCH**

Amish-made, contoured cedar benches with backs and armrests are 4' long and especially designed for comfort and beauty. Picnic tables are handmade with sturdy and stable pine construction and are 8' in length.

### **DEDICATION PLAQUES**

All plaques are beautifully engraved with your own dedication. Made from durable stainless steel, the 2" X 3" plaques can be attached to a bench, picnic table or on a stake near a tree or in a flowerbed.