Upgrades to Chicken Coop at SCUSD Farm

Gold Award Project
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Background

- My Gold Award project was focused on helping the farm upgrade their chicken coop.
- Last year alone, 7 of the 18 chickens were lost in a raccoon attack. Earlier this year, a couple of chickens were killed by a fox.
- In effect, the farm has experienced reduced productivity, and will continue to lose even more unless the issues are solved.
The Coop Door

- Manually operated
- Left open at night sometimes
- Several chickens lost due to fox/raccoon attacks
The Coop Door

- Automated chicken coop door by Coop Tender®
- Opens at dawn and closes at dusk
- Solar-powered
- No chickens have been lost since door installation
The Lay Boxes

- Lay box was slanted forward
- Hens would step on eggs and break and eat them
- Encouraged hens to be broody
The Lay Boxes

After

- Redesigned lay boxes by moving opening to other side and changing slant angle
- Eggs roll to the back of the lay box
- Hens no longer step on eggs and break and eat them
- Expected to discourage broody hens
The Shade, Swing, and Ladder Structures

- Mostly open area without shade around coop
- No protection from aerial predators
The Shade, Swing, and Ladder Structures

- Chickens now have a shade structure outside the coop
- Provides protection from aerial predators during the day
- Ladder and swing structures provide physical leisure for the chickens
Working on the project

Installation and set up of coop door
Working on the project

Sanding wood for the ladder and shade structure

Applying primer on wood for the ladder structure
Working on the project

Assembling the shade structure
Working on the project

Assembling the ladder and swing
Special Thanks to:

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- Home Depot
- My troop leader
- My volunteers