

JOHNSON COUNTY IOWA MASTER GARDENERS
Johnson County Master Gardener Project Leader Annual Report



Name of Project:
Demonstration Garden

Name(s) of Project Leader(s): Chris Sedrel, Laurie Roehl

Provide a brief statement of the involvement/impact for the project:
The Demonstration Garden provides education relating to vegetable gardening, and donates produce to local food pantries.

Number and names of Master Gardeners Involved:
The many gardeners involved in the Demo Garden include: Lindsey Anderson, Andrew Anson, Amanda Baker, Teri Berg, Laura Bonifaci, Michelle Fraunenholtz, Doug Gereats, Janice Hinig, Holly Hotchkiss, Brandi Janssen, Sandy Kessler, Leah Latella, Elizabeth Loeb, Jenny Loeser, Bonnie Penno, Salome Phillmann, Esther Retish, Larry Roehl, Laurie Roehl, Ann Ruppenkamp, Linda Schrieber, Chris Sedrel, Elayne Sexsmith, Janlyn Slach, Christopher Smith, Sarah Soboncinshki, Emily Thomas, John Weeg, Nancy Wehrheim, and Jackie Wellborn. 684.7 hours were logged as well as an additional 56.25+ hours in harvesting. It truly takes a village to care for the garden, through planning, planting, weeding, watering, and harvesting.

Please include a description of project impact:
The Demonstration Garden is located at the Johnson County Fairgrounds. It provides education to both MGs and the general public. The current goals are to improve soil quality, experiment with different planting methods, and donate quality produce to the local food pantries.

Provide a summary of project activities conducted throughout the calendar year and the results of the project (include data of the success(es) of the project and or partner(s).
Garden planning began in January, and continued throughout the growing season, ending in late October. Soil temps were recorded in the compost bins, Hugelkultur and ground temps. Records were kept regarding soil temps, varieties that performed well, and ones that underperformed. The garden sees many visitors during the County Fair, with MG garden guides interacting and providing education.

Statement of what you consider the greatest success of this project:
Our greatest success is the 1944.5 pounds of produce that was donated to the local food banks. The Hugelkultur berm continues to attract a lot of interest.

What are the needs to help this project continue? What changes would you consider making for the future?
We continue to need more MG volunteers. Next year we will making full use of the garden space and are hoping to increase our donations.

_Chris Sedrel, Laurie Roehl____
Project Leaders

1/11/2024