

# Eden Community Gardens'

## **Mission Statement**

**Covenant United Methodist Church sponsors** Eden Community Gardens, a garden dedicated to cultivating community in the **Gleneden and Colbert regions of Spokane** County. We desire to propagate good stewardship of God's creation, to provide the ability for neighbors to raise healthy crops and to promote our children's appreciation of nature. We also are committed to growing an abundant harvest that will be shared with our neighbors through local north side food banks.



**Covenant United Methodist Church** under their 501(c)(3) status has donated an acre of full-sun, former farmland adjacent to its facilities for the garden development in the Gleneden/Colbert region of Spokane County.

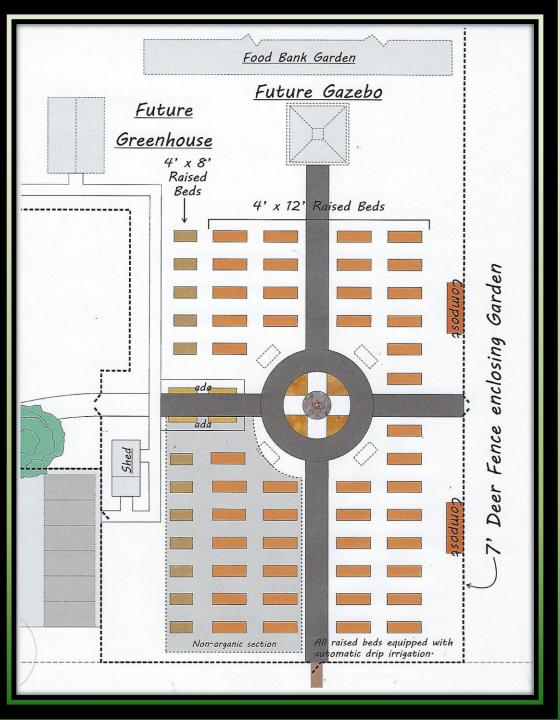
A group of interested gardeners began exploring the steps needed to develop a community garden in July 2015.

Six gardeners attended a class given by Pat Munts at the Community College in the winter of 2016.

This founding group was nicknamed the Guild of Gardeners.

#### Founding members of the "Guild of Gardeners"





#### Layout of Eden Community Gardens

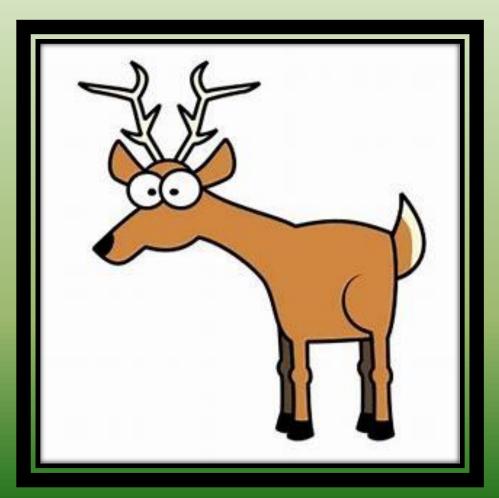
#### Ground breaking took place in March 2018.



#### Volunteers surveyed, plowed and tilled the garden site.



# Our first major expense was to purchase and install a deer fence.





 A Boy Scout build our raised beds as an Eagle Scout Project.

 Volunteers placed and leveled the raised beds.





Compost was donated by Circle M Landscaping.

On a cold wet spring day the raised beds were filled,

helped ably by boy scout Troop 218.



#### **River City Sprinkler installing irrigation lines**

Wood chips surround all the raised beds.



Drip irrigation is supplied to all raised beds.

## Landscaping fabric and irrigation lines were placed on both sides of the fence.





#### Red fir bark added to outside of the fence

### Bark and irrigation tubing was also placed inside the fence.



### Main gate to garden on N. Gleneden Drive prior to opening day





#### Grasses and "deer resistant" perennials were planted along the fence.

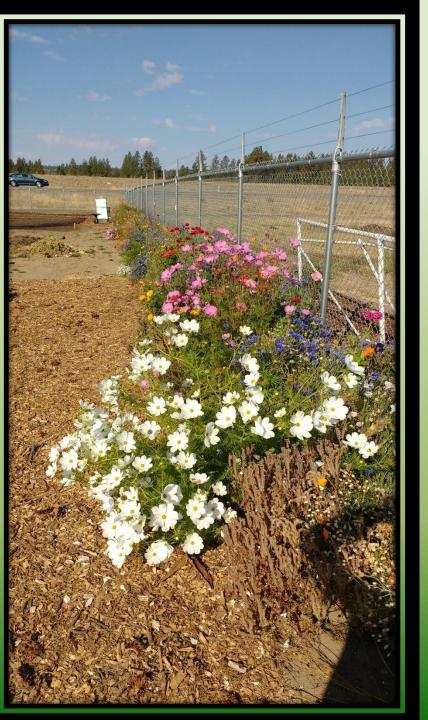
## Drip emitters supply water to perennials and grasses.





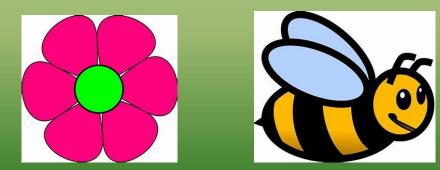
### A brick pathway was added at the main garden gate.







Wild flowers were planted along the length and width of the fence.



## Two gardeners have brought bee hives to the garden.



#### A Tough Shed was modified to serve as:

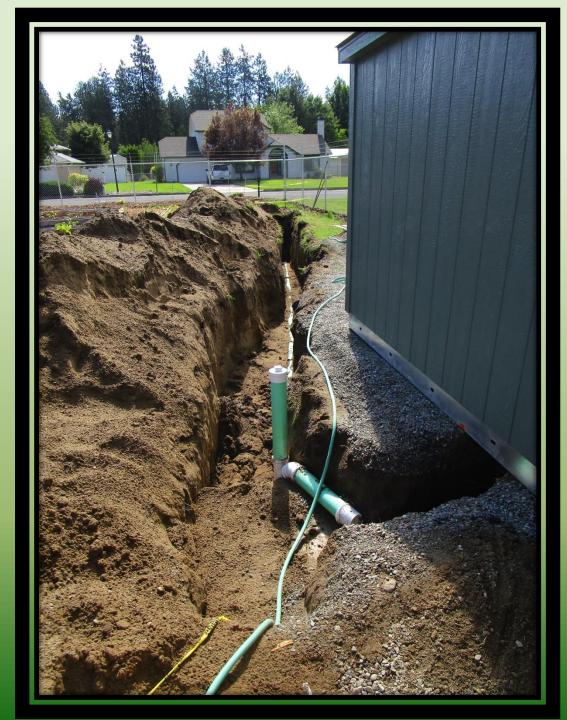
#### A storage shed

An ADA accessible restroom



89 year old Tom was the foreman of the paint crew!

#### A sewer line was connected to the church's existing line





Our volunteers installing flooring in the ADA restroom



Drinking fountains provide water to our gardeners

#### Placing rocks for the fountain area





### Fountain installation crew



#### **Central Fountain**

Annual and perennial plants enhance the central fountain area.





#### Benches and planters will be added to the fountain area



In 2018 thirty-two families using 38 raised beds were able to grow healthy organic vegetables in our garden.

# Using unrented raised beds, we were able to donate 1870 pounds of produce to local food banks our first year.



#### We supported the following food banks:

#### Mead



North County

Salvation Army

**Audubon Park UMC** 

#### Crushed asphalt was place on all pathways of the garden making ECG wheelchair accessible.



### Circle M Landscaping donated the crushed asphalt



# Volunteers rolled and compacted the crushed asphalt





Another Eagle Scout Project added wheelchair accessible raised beds surrounded by brick paving.

# The pathways were professionally chip sealed in 2020





A third Eagle Scout built and installed a bulletin board kiosk at the shed.

#### **Finished Product**



#### A fourth Eagle Scout built produce bins for the garden.

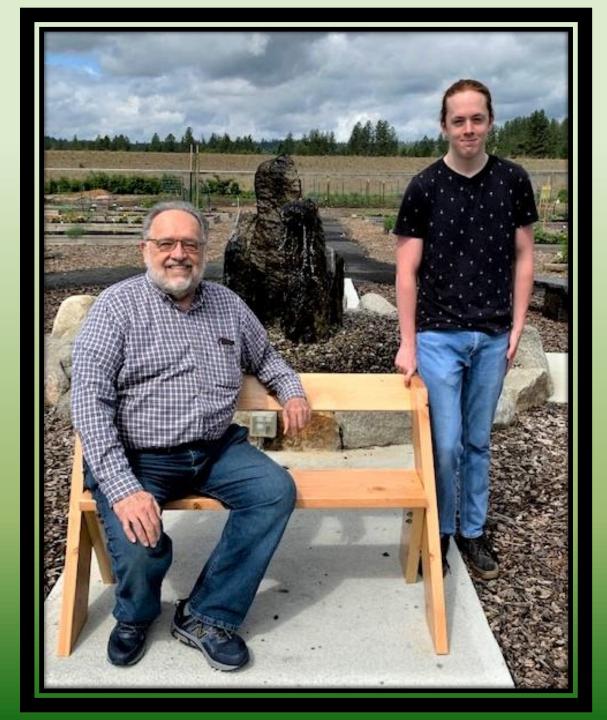


## Two compost bins were constructed by another Eagle Scout





This Eagle Scout built an extension on our shed for our power tools. The most recent Eagle Scout Project in 2021 added 4 benches to the garden.





Site of a 50' X 75 ' row crop area for donation of produce to local food banks.



Well composed horse manure was spread over the Row Crop Food Bank area

#### 42 Yards of Certified Organic Composted Soil was deposited in the Food Bank Garden area.



This enabled us to make a compost layer of four inches throughout the plot.





The compost was thoroughly till into the native soil.



#### A "green manure" cover crop was spread

# The cover crop was mowed in spring 2019





Drip irrigation was used throughout the Food Bank Garden

#### Straw was spread to retain water and inhibit weeds









### Nature's bounty grown organically





### In 2019 and again in 2020 we donated well over a ton of organic vegetables to local food banks







Seeds were donated for our Food Bank Garden from the

following companies:







# This is the future loading area and wheelchair path for ADA access to the garden



The addition of an arbor at the main gate is planned for the spring of 2022



#### A greenhouse will be built in the near future using repurposed windows from a renovation at the church.





A gazebo is planned in the future as well.



#### Eden Community Gardens 15515 N Gleneden Dr. Spokane, WA 99208

### Mary Jo Woods, Garden Director

**Barry Karalfa, Garden Coordinator** 

