

Simonton's Garden of Awesomeness

Let us dig into a year of fruitful gardening!

Garden Update: Volume 2

December 21, 2012

Preparations for January/February planting are underway. Three main projects are in the works to make this possible.

Project 1: Garden Beds Prep Work

- Removing large rocks from garden bed
- Securing soil amendments
- Tilling amendments into garden beds

Project 2: Seed Planting

- Creating a garden plan
- Obtaining seed trays with soil (4 trays obtained 12/14/12)
- Purchasing additional garden seeds
- Planting seeds (Two Simonton students planted seeds in 256 pots 12/16/12)
- Delivering seed trays to a local nursery (4 trays delivered to greenhouse 12/17/12)
- Organizing events for Transplanting Day

Project 3: Building Up a Compost Pile

- Collecting composting materials such as horse manure, chicken manure, leaves, untreated grass clippings, fruit and vegetable scraps, eggshells, coffee grounds, dryer lint, and shredded non-glossy newspaper
- Adding materials to compost bin
- Turning and watering compost pile - as needed
- Obtaining plastic buckets to give people interested in composting

Many of the above referenced actions are on going. This listing just gives a basic plan of what is happening to revive Simonton's Garden of Awesomeness.

We would love your help in the garden. Assistance is needed transporting garden supplies from the supplier(s) to the school garden. Sometimes we need extra hands to dig in the dirt. Additionally, we would like help distributing flyers for fundraisers benefiting the school garden. There are many ways to provide help in and with the garden. Donations of time can be as little or as much as you want.

Will you please contact Jacque Rowley, Simonton Elementary Attendance Clerk, if you would like to obtain a volunteer form? Her number is: 480-987-5330 x 5532.

Thank you!
Sherri Crosslin

Main Accomplishments November 2012:

- Two Simonton parents stepped forward to help with the school garden
- Tilling of some garden beds
- Garden Coordinator meetings about garden planning and growth
- Researching of gardening manuals and related websites
- Garden Update: Volume 1 (November) notifying Simonton families, staff, J. O. Combs Unified School District principals, and various community members about the school garden, the Seeds of Change Share the Good grant, and request for nominations benefiting Simonton's Garden of Awesomeness
- Receiving approval for a monetary donation from a local HOA
- Securing local donor for horse manure and leaves
- Securing local donor for chicken manure

Main Accomplishments December 2012:

- Obtaining access to another Rototiller
- Seed planting in 256 pots
- Delivery of 4 planted seed trays to a local greenhouse (for storage, watering, and care)
- Incorporating several deliveries of compost materials into the garden compost bin

Donations Received November 2012:

- Seeds of Change - garden seeds
- Anonymous - horse manure and leaves
- Anonymous - use of pick-up truck and Rototiller

Donations Received December 2012:

- Anonymous - use of a Rototiller
- Anonymous - herb seeds and small planters
- Zvida Growers - 4 seed trays containing soil, greenhouse space & care of plants while in greenhouse, and soil
- HOA - \$100.00 donation for drip irrigation system and seeds/plants