



Community Gardens 2010 Annual Report

2010 Community Garden Statistics



This was another successful year at the community gardens. The partnerships between the churches, City, gardeners, and community groups continue to evolve each year. Here are some of this year's accomplishments:

- 46 garden plots were added at Sonrise Church, which makes a grand total of 84 plots.
- New garden sheds were constructed at both gardens.
- Hillsboro Garbage and Cornelius Disposal now provide free yard debris cans at each garden.
- Miller Education, boy scouts, SOLV, and other community groups assisted with weed removal and pathway upkeep throughout the year. Over 400 volunteer hours were provided by these groups.
- Gardeners provided a great deal of positive feedback during the year.
- Garden Managers worked hard overseeing both gardens, donating over 600 hours of time.
- The Water Department donated water conservation tools and compost to help promote water wise use at the gardens.
- There were minimal reports of vandalism and theft this year. This is in part due to the strong sense of community that is being built at each garden site.
- Spring and fall work parties were scheduled to clean up community garden areas, pathways, till plots, and help keep the grounds at each site looking well maintained.
- Survey Says - 95% of the gardeners that took the 2010 garden survey rated their overall garden experience as good or excellent. 50% rated the facilities as excellent and 40% rated them as good.

Garden Rentals

Calvary Lutheran

Rented Plots:

- 12** 20x20 Plots
- 4** 10x20 Plots
- 7** Raised Beds
- 3** Church Plots (20x20)

Vacant Plots:

- 4** 20x20 Plots (shaded)
- 1** Raised Bed

Sonrise

Rented Plots:

- 33** 20x20 Plots
- 0** 15x20 Plots
- 10** 10x20 Plots
- 6** Raised Beds
- 14** Church Plots (8) 20x20 (2) 10x20 (4) Raised Beds

Vacant Plots:

- 13** 20x20 Plots
- 4** 15x20 Plots
- 4** 10x20 Plots
- 0** Raised Beds

Rental Totals:

Calvary: \$860.00

Sonrise: \$1950.00

Total: \$2,810

More on back

Water Usage:

Calvary	209 CCF	\$288.42
Sonrise	275 CCF	\$379.50
Total	484 CCF	\$667.92

Based on \$1.38/Unit from April-November.

Rental Fees:

Garden rental fees were used to help offset the cost of water usage, garden administration, and maintenance support for the gardens.

Donations & Education



- A girl scout troop rented a plot at Calvary Lutheran donated all produce to the food pantry at All Saint Episcopal Church. Several pounds of potatoes, cucumbers, broccoli, zucchini, carrots, cabbage, & peppers were donated while the girl scouts learned the how-tos of gardening.

- Home Plate, a Hillsboro nonprofit assisting teens facing homelessness, led an Intel grant-supported program at both gardens, which provided the opportunity for low-income youth to plant and maintain two garden plots. Youth received a stipend for time spent working at the gardens. This provided much needed income as well as some great produce for participants in the program.
- Gardeners at both gardens tracked over 400 pounds of donated produce to the Sonrise Food Pantry, Oregon Food Bank, HomePlate and other similar organizations.

Community Involvement

In 2010, Kyle Blachy led an Eagle Project at Calvary Lutheran to construct a new garden shed. Hillsboro Parks & Recreation purchased shed materials and Kyle organized 40 volunteers to construct & paint the shed, repair and replace garden plot borders, and chip the pathways.

Calvary Lutheran and Sonrise gardeners dedicated approximately 600 volunteer hours at garden work parties throughout the year to clean pathways, winterize plots, and keep shared garden areas clean.

Thank You Garden Managers!

Tom Zyp: Calvary Lutheran

Jim Schell: Sonrise

Our garden managers have done a phenomenal job managing the garden sites in 2010. The garden managers coordinated garden work parties, enforced garden rules/guidelines, provided expertise, tended to gardens during gardener absences, and served as a liaison between the City and the gardeners.

Over 800 volunteer hours were dedicated to managing the gardens in total. Approximately 500 hours at Sonrise by Jim Schell and 300 hours at Calvary Lutheran by Tom Zyp. This garden season was successful thanks to their dedication and hard work in keeping the gardens running smoothly.



New Website

Garden information is now on the Hillsboro Park & Recreation Website.

Gardeners can now view:

- garden manual
- garden plot maps
- garden FAQs
- timelines
- and other useful information on the gardens

Visit <http://www.ci.hillsboro.or.us/ParksRec/ParksnTrails/CommunityGardens.aspx>.

Waiting Lists

There are currently no gardeners on the waiting list for a plot at Calvary Lutheran and 10 gardeners on the waiting list for plots at Sonrise for the 2011 season.

46 additional plots opened at Sonrise late in the 2010 season that will provide plots for those currently on the waiting list.

There are more gardeners on the waiting list for a raised bed than there are raised beds available.

Staff anticipates full garden registration in 2011.