

Stettler Community Orchard

Overview of Project:

The idea is to create a true community orchard, transforming the plain green space adjacent to the creek across from the Stettler Mall into a beautiful, multi-function community space. The orchard will be built as 2 areas, to work around buried utility lines. The total area of the project is approximately 1 acre, with one planting being approximately 300 feet by 60-100 feet (located south of the E/W pathway), and a second planting being 200-250 feet by 35-45 feet (north and west of the E/W pathway). The entire site will be covered with a layer of a durable bark mulch, to reduce the amount of maintenance required once established. The ground will be broken and built up/raised up to level out the lower areas and to provide more soil for larger plants to thrive. The site will be irrigated.

There will be a number of hardy fruit species planted, including both fruit trees (apples, crabapples and pears), as well as a number of bush fruit (dwarf sour cherries, Saskatoon berries, raspberries, Nanking cherries, black/red/white currants, and blue honeysuckle). The site also includes several large trees (Siberian larch), as well as mulched pathways and ornamental borders/pathways of perennial plants (peonies, daylilies, Rudbeckia and ornamental grass). The perennial sections of the orchards represent an opportunity to create a feature peony collection/garden, reflecting the town flower. A lattice fence will be installed along the creek side of the site, on the south planting, with grape vines and Virginia creeper woody vines growing on it. The combination of species will provide seasonal variations in colour. The public will be free to pick fruit from the orchard, with seasonal events to ensure no fruit is wasted (channeled to Food Bank).

The site preparation will likely start in fall of 2017, with fundraising throughout the winter. Planting will take place in late May 2018.

How will the project be funded?

The cost of the plants, soil, mulch and building materials, as well as any additional features, will come from community donations, with the entire community given an opportunity to chip in. A number of grants will also be applied for. Labour will come from volunteers and donations from businesses. Town of Stettler will assist with specific site preparation activities and by providing soil and compost to get the site ready to be used.

How can you contribute?

Anyone, whether individual, family, group, organization or business can contribute to the project. All donors will be recognized on the signage that will be installed and can get a tax receipt from the town. Donations can take the form of cash or the donation of materials, skilled labour, or discounts on required materials. Certain plants might also be donated.

Donation Levels

Green = up to \$100

Bronze = \$101 - \$250

Silver = \$251 - \$500

Gold = \$501 - \$1000

Platinum = over \$1000



If you are interested in donating, visit the Parks and Leisure Services office in the Recreation Centre or call 403-742-4411.

For questions about the project in any form, email stettlercommunitygardens@gmail.com or call Robert Spencer (evenings) 403-742-4142.

Orchard layout plan

Species of fruit trees and shape of planting may vary

Legend

-  Lots
-  gas line
-  Sewer_Pipe
-  Storm_Pipe
-  Water_Pipe
-  Saskatoon Berries
-  Raspberries (on trellis)
-  Haskap/Blue Honeysuckle
-  Larch
-  Nanking Cherry
-  Blackcurrant
-  Dwarf Sour Cherry
-  Virginia Creeper (on lattice)
-  Grapes (on lattice)
-  Pears
-  Apples
-  Crabapples
-  Ornamental Border
-  Pathway



1:900

