



2021 Rose Roots Community Garden Annual Report

Executive Summary

Through Partnering with the City of Arvada (City) and Denver Urban Gardens (DUG) Rose Roots Community Garden (RRCG), a volunteer-run 95-plot garden in North West Arvada, provides opportunities for gardeners to support local community agriculture, grow community and nurture healthy environmental systems while educating future generations on creating better local food-systems. This report provides details of the activities of the 2021 RRCG season. Our mission, vision, values, and partnerships are detailed. Offered is a summary of the ways RRCG gave back to the community in 2021. We outline our 2021 Financial Summary. We offer a summary of our garden structure and amenities. Below leadership roles are outlined, and 2021 Elected Leaders and Service Team Leads are named. This report details the 2021 Season Events, including repeating events and specific activities by month. Summarized are improvements made, in service to our garden community, in 2021, including developing a Friends of Rose Roots Sponsor Program, to recognize individuals and businesses who support RRCG. Additionally, detailed are ways in which Rose Roots has focused specifically in 2021 on supporting a structure of inclusivity as well as nurturing community.

Mission of the RRCG

The Mission of Rose Roots Community Garden, **hereto referred to as RRCG**, is to create a beautiful, organic community garden, orchard and collaborative environment that restores the bond between people, food and nature. **Under the guidance of Denver Urban Garden (DUG), RRCG works** with gardeners and the land with integrity, courage and artistic-thinking to create a better local-food system and a fertile, abundant world for the children who follow. **RRCG prioritizes** Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in all garden operations. **RRCG focus is** to provide fresh food to community organizations in need and **educate** our gardeners and community.

Vision of RRCG

The vision of RRCG is to **foster and encourage regional passionate community participation in gardening, while proffering the benefits** of an equitable and ecologically sound food system, **leading to experiencing the health benefits of spending time in nature.**

Values of RRCG

The values of RRCG are Sustainability, Education, and Community Outreach.

City Of Arvada Partnership



RRCG is grateful to the City of Arvada for allowing us as gardeners to use the Hills at Standley Lake 15-acre park land at 8412 Alkire Street, Arvada. The Park is part of the City of Arvada Open Space system and was developed in 2012 along with the neighboring CSA. This has become home to hundreds of gardeners for the past 9 years. As we approach our 10 Year Anniversary in 2022, we are thankful for the opportunity to partner with the City of Arvada, particularly the Arvada Parks Department under the leadership of Gordon Reusink.

Denver Urban Gardens Partnership

RRCG is also thankful to Denver Urban Gardens (DUG) who leases Rose Roots Garden from the City of Arvada. DUG provides insurance, financial management, registration and waiver tracking, and mentorship as well as networking opportunities with other gardens in the metro Denver area, including Arvada.

Environmental and Community Stewardship

The RRCG is responsible for maintenance and upkeep of the garden and facilities. RRCG is in compliance with all City of Arvada lease requirements, local ordinances, and endeavors to minimize environmental impact and to be good stewards of the land.

How RRCG Gave Back To Community In 2021

By the Numbers

- We hosted over **30** events, including workshops, work parties, potlucks, and community meetings.
- **4** Community Live “Music in the Garden” Events
- Over **1,000** service hours were logged by gardeners
- Over **2,000** lbs of produce were donated by gardeners to Community Table and Veggie Van
- We earned **\$3,000** from a neighborhood improvement grant and supplies have been delivered.
- **10** active Service Teams maintained the garden and made improvements to surrounding open spaces.
- Over **30** people signed up for our ten Service Teams

By the Numbers (Continued)



- We maintain **10** community spaces including a pollinator garden, herb garden, three food bank plots, several native species plots with educational signage on medicinal plants, a cook's companion plot, two food forest plots and a Children's garden plot.
- We stock **1** beloved Little Library
- We filled **95** plots with active gardeners
- We donated over **15,000** lbs of produce to the Community Table Food Bank and Veggie Van among other community organizations over the last 9 years.
- We spread over **50 million** beneficial nematodes for organic pest control
- We have **1** new refrigerator and **2** new fans to cool the barn where we store donated produce for community
- One Evergreen tree has been donated for our Westside Landscaping Neighborhood Improvement Project.
- Next season will be our **10** Year Anniversary as gardeners growing community and we plan to celebrate with the City of Arvada and surrounding communities.

2021 Summary of RRCG Finances

OPERATIONS (Water, Electric, Insurance, Trash, Office Supplies, ADA Plots, Etc.)

Budgeted: \$2,690.00
Actual Spent: \$ 435.97

MAINTENANCE (Equipment Repairs, Hoses, Plot Plants, Weed Mitigation, Etc.)

Budgeted: \$3,950.00
Actual Spent: \$4,252.44

GARDENER AMENITIES (Community/Youth Events, Soil, Apparel, Nematodes)

Budgeted: \$2,338.00
Actual Spent: \$1,928.64

COMMUNITY OUTREACH (West Side Landscaping Project, Beeler Garden Donation, Etc.)

Budgeted: \$2,700.00
Actual Spent: \$ 480.43

RESERVE

Budgeted: \$2,261.11
Actual Spent: \$ 0.00

2021 Summary of RRCG Finances (Continued)



Actual Spent: \$7,097.48
Reserve \$2,261.11

TOTAL 2021 BUDGET WITH RESERVE: \$13,939.11
MONEY LEFT TO SPEND/CARRY OVER TO 2022\$ 4,580.52
RESERVE MONEY TO CARRY OVER TO 2022 \$ 2,261.11

2021 Rose Roots Community Garden

General Monetary Donations	\$240.85
In-Kind Donations	\$960.00
Total Produce Pounds Donated	1,459
Total Produce Dollar Equivalent	\$3,953.89
Total Volunteer Hours	1,339
Total Dollar Equivalent	\$9,373.00

2021 West Side Land Improvement Project

West Side Arvada Grant Budgeted	\$3,000.00
West Side Arvada Grant Actual Spent	\$2,990.84
West Side Rose Roots Budgeted	\$2,500.00
West Side Rose Roots Actual Spent	\$ 280.43
West Side Volunteer Hours	134
West Side Dollar Equivalent	\$ 938.00
West Side In-Kind Donations	\$ 791.50
West Side Tree Donations	\$ 600.00



2021 Rose Roots Garden Projects

The following Rose Roots Community Garden projects were completed in 2021:

- Business and Postcards
- Name Tags for Steering Committee and Garden Leads
- Kiosk Title Letters
- Nematodes Application (garden wide)
- Tools Replacement
- Tires/Wheels Replacement
- Watering Timer
- Inner-tubes for Wheelbarrows
- Hose Racks Replacement
- Community Plot Plants/Amendments
- Weed Mitigation (July and August)
- Refrigerator Replacement
- Soil Amendments (Spring)
- Wix Website
- Gardener and Founder Appreciation Apparel

2021 West Side Landscaping Neighborhood Improvement Project

The following West Side projects were completed in 2021:

- Site Layout Development
- Site Plan Development
- Purchase of Phase 1 Supplies
- Purchase of Aluminum Edging Supplies
- Completion of Lasagna Style Planting Bed
- Horse Manure Spreading (Two Applications)
- Purchase of Granite
- Purchase of Cedar Mulch



East Side Garden Amenities

The following are the East Side amenities that gardeners experienced in 2021:

- Water Spickets for $\frac{3}{4}$ of Garden
- Hose Rack Use For Water Spickets
- High Quality Hoses
- Unlimited Use Of Water
- Access to Manure for Individual Gardener Use
- Weed Mitigation along All Garden Paths
- Nematodes Application Throughout Entire Garden
- Unlimited Use of All Garden Tools
- Unlimited Use of Rototillers
- Unlimited Use of Organic Soil Enhancers
- Unlimited Use of Organic Bug Spray

West Side Garden Amenities

The following are the West Side amenities that gardeners will experience in the future:

- Water Spickets for $\frac{3}{4}$ of Garden
- Hose Rack Use For Water Spickets
- High Quality Hoses
- Unlimited Use Of Water
- Access to Manure for Individual Gardener Use
- Weed Mitigation along All Garden Paths
- Nematodes Application Throughout Entire Garden
- Unlimited Use of All Garden Tools
- Unlimited Use of Rototillers
- Unlimited Use Of Organic Bug Spray
- Unlimited Use of Organic Soil Enhancers

Note: All garden plots on the West and East sides will benefit from the development of the West Side Neighborhood Improvement project, in which approximately 15 trees will be planted as a windbreak, thereby reducing wind blown weeds given the prevailing wind come from the West.

RRCG Members



Any person regardless of race, creed, color, **national origin, religious affiliation**, age, sexual orientation, handicap, or location of residence may become a member of RRCG. A person becomes a member simply by paying a per plot membership fee.

RRCG Membership

Membership in RRCG entitles each individual in the member household to participate as a gardener in private garden plots, shared garden plots and to make use of the composting facilities. Members also elect the officers, **may themselves serve as officers, and may serve as leads or volunteers** on the RRCG committee. Except where otherwise specified, the term “member” in these bylaws refers to the household and not to individuals within the household. RRCG membership may be terminated by the member gardener at any time by notice from the member. **Membership may also be terminated** by vote of the RRCG Steering Committee in cases of **bylaws infractions or violations of RRCG rules and regulations**.

Officers of RRCG

The seven officers of RRCG include the president, vice president, administrator, treasurer, membership designee, and operations designees (2 gardeners).

Responsibility of President

The President of RRCG presides over all meetings of the RRCG Steering Committee, sets agenda, organizes potlucks and/or annual meetings, coordinates communication to the various committees, and is the liaison between the RRCG and **Denver Urban Gardens (DUG)**.

Responsibility of Vice President

The Vice President acts as the President when the President is absent or unavailable, and sits on the RRCG Steering Committee. The Vice President can share the President’s responsibilities as requested by the President.

Responsibility of Administrator

The Administrator is responsible for all written records of the RRCG, minutes of meetings, official correspondence, and sits on the RRCG Steering Committee.

Officers of RRCG (Continued)

Responsibility of Membership



The RRCG Membership designee, **in conjunction with the RRCG Treasurer**, is responsible to track and maintain member plot records, collect plot fees, field phone and email inquiries, maintain gardener wait list, track member community service hours, **develops** hold guidelines, and sits on the RRCG Steering Committee.

Responsibility of Treasurer

The RRCG Treasurer is responsible for all financial records, **works with the RRCG Membership designee**, has the authority to give approval to release money on behalf of the organization, and sits on the RRCG Steering Committee.

Responsibility of Operations

RRCG Operations is responsible for performing ongoing facility maintenance, along with performing major and minor repairs of the entire garden, applies preventative measures to reduce the risk of future problems, and sits on the RRCG Steering Committee.

RRCG Steering Committee

The RRCG Steering Committee is composed **of a minimum of three RRCG officers**, and a **maximum of seven officers**. Any **RRCG gardener in good standing** may join the RRCG Steering Committee at any time if a position is open, by nomination of at least two members, not including themselves.

The RRCG Sub-Committees

The RRCG Sub-Committees are formed when **gardeners volunteer by signing-up** on the online sign-up sheet **contained** on the RRCG Website. Each sub-committee **consists of a lead position(s) appointed by the RRCG Steering Committee and gardeners who volunteer to serve on the RRCG Sub-Committee**. There is no limit to the number of gardeners who may participate **in any one** RRCG Sub-Committees as long as **he/she is a RRCG member in good standing**.

RRCG Resources

The RRCG West Barn and East Shed house materials are used for gardeners only, and specifically to maintain garden plots and garden community areas. Tools **are never** to be removed from the garden premises. The East Shed is the storage area for all flammable materials in appropriate sealed containers. **Any** renovations anywhere on site, including community spaces and the RRCG West Barn and East Shed **must** be approved by The RRCG Steering Committee.

RRCG 2021 Leadership



Steering Committee:

Five leaders were elected, and two appointed for the 2021 gardening season. Each leader serves a term of 2 years, including volunteer team leads outlined below.

Elected Leaders:

- Erin Newton, President, 2021-2022 seasons
- Patty Sacks, Vice President, 2021-2022 seasons
- Karel Hemler and John Malito, Treasurers, 2021-2022 seasons (John appointed for 2022)
- Membership, Kendra Eliason, 2021-2022 seasons
- Administrator, Laura Bennett, 2021-2022 seasons

At-Large Appointed Steering Committee members:

- Gary Williams, Operations, 2021-2022 seasons
- Jim Richards, Operations, 2021-2022 seasons

Service Teams

To focus on a team-oriented community minded approach, ten teams were designated this season to manage the garden, with the team leads listed below. All members were invited to join each team with no limits on total team members. Google Forms Sign-ups were offered via newsletters and social media platforms. Email groups were created for each team.

Rose Roots Service Teams 2021

1. Operations Team-Leads: Gary Williams, Jim Richards
2. Community Space Maintenance Team-Leads: Patty Sacks, Julie Lesnick
3. Communications Team-Lead: Erin Newton
4. Membership Integration Team-Leads: Kendra Eliason and Laura Bennett
5. Community Outreach Team-Lead: Judy Newton
6. Food Donation Team-Leads: Theresa McKinney, John Malito
7. Compost Team-Leads: Glen Andrews, Julie Gleason
8. Rose Roots Youth Team-Lead: Mary Poole, Margaret Jarcot
9. Westside Landscaping Team (2021 Grant Earned)-Lead: Patty Sacks
10. Quadrant Teams-Christie Morin, SE Lead, Leads Available

Food Donation-Arvada Community Table



In 2021, RRCG provided produce donations bi-weekly to the Arvada Community Table. The Community Table provides hunger relief services to qualifying individuals and families through a variety of programs. The Community Garden is the largest emergency food and human service provider in Northern Jefferson County serving 100 square miles and the communities of Arvada, Golden, Edgewater, Lakeside, Mountain View, Westminster and Wheat Ridge.

Community Table contends that people cut back on food because it is a necessary choice for families struggling to make ends meet. Hungry children do not do well in school. Hungry adults may not be able to hold a job. Also, not having enough to eat affects the ability of older adults to manage illness and maintain their health.

When gardeners give produce to The Community Table, it can help put an end to families having to decide between buying food and paying other expenses. And helping to stabilize families will give them the resources needed to be self-reliant.

Food Donation-Veggie Van

In 2021, RRCG provided produce donations to Veggie Van. The Veggie Van in 2021 distributed almost 4,000 pounds to the over 700 customers they served. Many of the customers were seniors and families living in Section 8 Housing.

One of the many successes Veggie Van experienced in 2021 was the minimal produce waste. The Veggie Van estimated their waste to be 2% of the 4,000 pounds distributed. Another success of the Veggie Van was how recipes were developed to teach recipients how to use vegetables more efficiently. There were a total of 34 different recipes developed and given to the over 700 individuals who received produce.



2021 Garden Season Event Summary

Repeating Events

Monthly All Gardener Meetings

Monthly meetings were initially held on Google Meet, due to pandemic cautionary measures, with the meeting link distributed via our emailed newsletters, posted on our website, and event reminders were posted on social media. When we were able to meet outdoors, we held meetings on the first Monday of each month at 6 pm at the garden which were generally 1.5 hours.

All gardeners were invited to participate, Agendas and Minutes were posted on a new “Agendas and Minutes” page on our website, and gardeners were invited (on our website, in meetings and newsletters) to submit agenda items for discussion at least 24 hours before the monthly meeting. Gardeners were always offered opportunities to give feedback during the “Good of the Order” in each meeting, or via our online Feedback form.

- **Thursday Evening Work Parties**-every other Thursday led by Patty Sacks and Julie Lesnick
- **Pollinator Garden Sunday Morning Work Parties**-Led by Nicole McCrorie and Tyler
- **Produce Pick-Up and Delivery** We delivered over 2,000 lbs of produce grown by gardeners to local community organizations. “Community Table” Food Bank deliveries were led by Theresa McKinney and Veggie Van produce pick-up by Shelley Cook was coordinated by John Malito. Donations began in June and deliveries happened on Monday and Thursday and went through the second week in October. We surpassed our goal of donating 15,000 lbs of produce in the 9 years we’ve been donating since 2013.

Monthly Event Summary

February

- Garden leaders Erin Newton and Patty Sacks wrote a grant proposal for the City Neighborhood Improvement Grant and Rose Roots was awarded the \$3,000 grant to make landscape improvements to the land to the West of the garden and East of Alkire Street. Rose Roots Community Garden matched the grant with \$2,500.
- Feb 10: Guest Speakers at Monthly Meeting: Shelley Cook from the Veggie Van and Marissa Silverberg from Jefferson County Food Systems and Policy, to help us make decisions on where to donate our extra food for the coming season.
- Feb 20: Several gardeners attended DUG’s online New and Returning Gardner Leader Training.



Monthly Event Summary (Continued)

March

- Plot Registration: In lieu of our annual Registration Open House due to the pandemic, we sent out an invite to gardeners in March to register using the online DUG registration forms and the Gardener Rules and Regulations posted on our website.
- Plot fees were: \$75 15x15' plot, \$45/half 15x7.5' plot, \$35 for a raised ADA plot.
- We required 12 service hours per season per plot, or a \$7 donation per service hour.
- We offered online Google forms to sign up for jobs as an opportunity to fulfill service hours.
- We also offered a new online Google Forms logging sheet to log service hours.
- Invoices were sent using Wix Invoicing to collect remaining balances after Oct 31.

April

- Compost was delivered by Rosa Flora and we encouraged gardeners to take one wheelbarrow full per plot. Horse manure was picked up from a local ranch, covered to kill weed seeds, and used to enrich garden soils.
- Several gardeners attended DUG's online leader training workshops, Round Table discussions with other garden leaders, and Earth Day Symposium.
- April 24: Garden Season Kick Off Work Party: New Hose Racks were installed at every garden plot. Led by Gary Williams and Jim Richards.

May

- Garden Plot Registration closed May 2. We sold all 95 plots.
- May 10: We picked up seedlings from DUG and distributed them to gardeners who attended events as door prizes.
- Pollinator Garden Sunday Morning breakfast work days started along with workdays every other Thursday evening led by Patty Sacks and Julie Lesnick.
- Over 25 new gardener orientations were completed individually at the garden by Garden Administrator Laura Bennett.
- The City turned the water on at the garden in early May, and the gardening season officially started June 1.
- May 12: Garden leaders hosted an online mentorship workshop on starting a garden with the Arvada Fire Dept and an Erie Community organizer
- May 15: Kick off Composting meeting. Several compost trainings were held to train gardeners on the maintenance of our West and East compost bins.
- May 23: Kick Off Celebration at the garden with live music by Bradmon Sisters on Cello and Violin and harpist Erin Newton. Garden trivia winners earned seedlings.
- May 24: One of our garden founders Gina Schley offered a Crash Course on Successful Garden Set Up
- May 28: Youth Leadership Team Kick-off Social involved brainstorming and planning events



Monthly Event Summary (Continued)

June

- June 1: Final plot planting date.
- June 8: Rose Roots Apparel Order deadline, this was our first ever spirit apparel order through local woman owned business “Shirt Works”.
- June 9: Compost Training for all gardeners
- June 15: Westside Landscaping Neighborhood Grant Implementation Planning Meeting.
- June 24: Started produce pick-up and delivery with Community Table and Veggie Van (Monday and Thursday mornings).
- June 17: Community Event “Music at the Garden” with Tim Merkel.
- June 24: Compost Training for all gardeners.
- June 30: Staked Westside Landscaping project layout.

July

- July 7: Westside Landscaping Project Community Meeting (community invited via social media, city calendar, Next Door, newsletters).
- July 8: Gardener Education Workshop: “Patty’s Gardener Roving Tips and Tricks” Social.
- July 10: Manure Turning Party with Community LDS Youth Group.
- July 11: Buzz about Bees Pollinator workshop with Master Gardener Nicole McCrorie.
- July 15: Community Event “Music at the Garden” with Kelan Spinden.
- July 24: Rose Roots Outdoor Movie Night “Kiss the Ground” with City provided blow up movie screen.
- An organic 30% vinegar mix was applied to plot borders to help reduce weeds and preserve our weed barrier.
- Native Bee and Cucumber study conducted by North Carolina State University.
- Local Artist Group held painting workshop at garden.

August

- Aug 2: Social Meeting with “Sister” garden Beeler Garden, connected through DUG.
- Aug 7: First ever community garden bike ride organized through “Bike Friendly Arvada.”
- Aug 14: Community youth group led by Jason Andersen worked at garden weeding and began “lasagna bed” layering to develop new rich garden bed soil.
- Aug 25: Rose Roots hosts first ever Micro-Network Social, led by new DUG CORPS members.
- Started a Friends of Rose Roots “Plant-a-Tribute Tree” program and received donations of deciduous and evergreen trees for our Westside Landscaping project.

Monthly Event Summary (Continued)



September

- City renews concessionaire contract with DUG for a duration of 5 years.
- Sept 15: Community Event “Music at the Garden” with Laurie Dameron.
- Sept 20: Purchased supplies through local company Pioneer Landscaping including gravel and compost for Westside Landscaping Project. Work party to lay out new garden beds.

October

- Oct 21: Sprayed beneficial nematodes “Triple Threat” from Arbico Organics, including H.bacteriophora, S. carpocapsae, and S. feltiae to reduce larvae of soil dwelling pests.
- Oct 23: Final garden work party and End of Season Potluck Celebration with Llama visit from Zander Farms, thank you to leads and gardeners, Youth activities.

November

- City turned water off at the garden to close the season at signs of the first frost.

December

- Mulched appx 100 bags of leaves picked up from city leaf drive.
- Procured more supplies for Westside landscaping project, including edging.

Improvements in Service to our Garden Community

The following improvements in service to our garden community are as follows:

- We offered a feedback form on our website and discussed all feedback in our All Gardener meetings.
- We offered more budget transparency by offering five categories “Operations, Maintenance, Gardener Amenities, Community Outreach, and Reserve”. We presented budget summaries at every monthly meeting and uploaded summaries to a new “Finances” page on our website.
- We offered a mentor to pair with new gardeners to help them get started.
- We offered a monthly work day specifically focused on plots that needed extra attention.
- We put garden neighbors in contact with each other to offer a team approach to support all garden efforts.
- We added “Diversity Appreciation” moments to celebrate various cultures and traditions at the beginning of each All Gardener meeting.
- We provided a new Pre-Registration Google Form so gardeners can let us know if they plan to return next season and would like to save their plot. Prospective gardeners may also fill out this form to show interest in obtaining a plot when one becomes available.

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Improvements in Service to our Garden Community

- We offered Gardener Appreciation prizes for those gardeners who participated in events and carefully read newsletters for key information.



- We developed a large season end compost pile to the West of the garden, and while keeping the organic materials out of the landfill, will compost the materials and use them to enrich the soil on City land to the west of the garden for the Westside landscaping Neighborhood Improvement project.
- We purchased a Wix phone number to provide timely updates to gardeners via bulk texts and allow for ease of direct contact.
- We developed spirit apparel to help gardeners develop community around gardening.

Friends of Rose Roots Sponsorship Program

We developed a “Friends of Rose Roots” Sponsorship Program to recognize generous donors who support our community garden. Below are the sponsorship levels:

Friends of Rose Roots Sponsor Levels:

- \$200 Bronze Bumble Bee
- \$500 Silver Squash
- \$1,000 Golden Gourd
- \$2,500 Platinum Pepper

Donate-a-Tribute Tree with three years maintenance:

- \$300 Deciduous
- \$600 Evergreen

Supporting A Structure of Inclusivity

Rose Roots focuses on inclusivity in the following ways:

- This year we added the inclusivity statement to our website: **“We welcome all races, ages, religions, countries of origin, sexual orientations, genders and abilities. We garden together, learn from, and honor each other’s journeys”**.
- In following our parent organization Denver Urban Garden’s model, we added to our mission statement: **“We will work with each other and the land to create a better local food system and a fertile, abundant world for the children who follow us, prioritizing Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in all garden operations”**.
- We added A **“Feedback”** tab to the bottom of every page of our website to track feedback and engage gardener input as well as a suggestion box in the Barn.
- Monthly Meetings are **open to All Gardeners** and are well publicized.
- Offering both **in-person and online conveniences** for gardeners like Service Hour Tracking, Online Registration and Sign Ups, and Reminders about Events.

Supporting A Structure of Inclusivity (Continued)

- We are increasing **requests for gardener feedback** and ideas through surveys and end of season polls.



- We've developed a **Youth Leadership Team** to offer a space for youth to express their creativity.
- Our **food donation program** has expanded to serve multiple community organizations and needs.
- We've restructured our gardener outreach into **ten Service Teams** that any gardener may join and are helping support gardener networks.
- We include a **diversity appreciation** moment at the beginning of many monthly meetings.
- We have added a Finances page to our website with monthly financial summaries for **transparency**, along with Agendas and Minutes for increased **gardener awareness and participation** in garden management.
- We offer **All Gardener training** in Composting, crash courses in Garden set-up, and help gardeners finance Master Gardener training.
- We have refined our **leadership election process** in our Bylaws, ensuring notice is given for nominations and an independent party oversees the process.
- We are offering garden leads name tags so **outreach** is more comfortable for gardeners seeking mentorship.
- We have outlined our **8 Community Spaces** on our website where everyone may work together and learn from each other.
- We have a garden phone number (720) 702-8806 where we can be **responsive and track feedback**, as well as send updates to keep members informed.
- We added a "**Member Highlights**" section to our Kiosk so gardeners can learn more about each other and from each other's gardening experiences.
- We are **uplifting gardeners** by financially supporting our Youth Team and sharing gardener tutorials online for others to learn from and offering **Learning and Helping Scholarships**
- We maintain a Blog, Newsletter, and Calendar on our website to **share information** with gardeners and **encourage participation**.
- We are planning celebrations for our Ten Year Anniversary next year, started our first Spirit Apparel store, are reviewing our history and the **many contributions made**.



Ways Rose Roots Nurtures Community

The various ways Rose Roots has nurtured the community are as follows:

- Volunteers **donate their time** to organize, execute and maintain community projects.
- Community members walking the pathway past the garden enjoy the lush greenery and engage with our community.
- Leaders organize **work days** in which gardeners build and maintain plot borders, weeds are kept at bay with back breaking labor in community spaces, **youth spaces** are created, equipment, outdoor furniture and structures are **maintained**, a **composting system** maintained to create rich soil, **community events** bring people together, and many continue to serve as **selfless stewards** of the garden.
- **Gardeners help other** gardeners set up watering systems and learn various ways to mulch and save water and keep back pests and weeds.
- **Hand painted beautiful signs and a Little Library** add color and bring education and reading opportunities.
- Educational signs offer ideas on growing herbs for nurturing physical and mental health.
- **“Water Me” signs** are available to gardeners so people can help each other’s plots survive and thrive when they are traveling.
- Leads offer inclusive **orientations and mentorship** to new members and regional communities.
- Gardeners **share specialized skills** to support the garden and mentor community members.
- The **“Bloom of Honor”** makes someone’s day when it’s secretly placed in each garden plot.
- Gardeners share their talents in **workshops** on growing specific vegetables and healthy cooking classes with garden produce.
- Community projects like Westside Landscaping project with a **Neighborhood Improvement** grant aim to improve soil, plant trees, and offer a reflective space.
- **Multiple generations** interact and new members and master gardeners learn from each other in the shared space.