



**LET'S
BE
EPIC!**



TO HELP CONNECT PEOPLE.

**NEIGHBORS
WITH NATURE :
ERIE'S NATIVE
PLANTING INITIATIVE**



IN A DIVIDED WORLD.



SERVICE

FRIENDSHIP

COMMUNITY



EDoS: Nature with Neighbors Project post-execution report

Overview

The **EDoS: Nature with Neighbors** project aimed to create a community pollinator garden, enhancing local biodiversity and providing an educational and recreational space for residents.

The project, a collaboration between Friends of Community Conservation (FoCC), the Rotary Club, local scouts, and community volunteers, was meticulously planned and executed, resulting in an outcome that far exceeded expectations.

This report outlines the post-execution statistics, images, and details of the project, demonstrating how a well-organized community effort can achieve remarkable success and set a precedent for future initiatives.

Volunteer Participation

The project saw a substantial volunteer turnout, exceeding initial expectations. The volunteers included:

- - ~42 Community Volunteers
- - 24 Scouts and Parents
- - Friends of Coal Creek Volunteers
- - Rotary Volunteers

Additionally, several individuals joined spontaneously, having learned about the project through Facebook or the town fair. Some registered volunteers also brought along spouses or friends. These numbers represent the volunteers we are aware of, and the actual count might be higher.

Project Execution

The project wrapped up in approximately half the anticipated time, (major operations were coming in by about 11:35) showcasing the efficiency and dedication of the

volunteers. The combined efforts significantly accelerated the planting and setup processes.

Fundraising Success

We will a report put together with Vinita on some numbers from this stage in the project, but the scope will likely expand per the success of this single day.

The fundraising efforts surpassed expectations:

- Corporate Donors: Two corporate donors contributed a total of over \$4000.
- Small Donors: Several small donors contributed an additional \$1300+.
- Matching Grant funds of \$2,625 have been received.

Budget Utilization

The budget for the project was utilized more efficiently than anticipated:

- Plant Costs: The expenditure on plants was about half of the expected amount.
- City Contributions: The city covered the costs for fencing, mulch and soil, signage, and other essential items.

Much of the budget was consumed by items that can be reused in future projects of this nature. New water jugs and other hardware have been returned to the Quartermaster for future projects.

Nonreusable items, snacks, and food we will need for the social event will build goodwill and better friends, and build our reputation as a good group to volunteer for.

With the remaining budget, we are well-positioned to undertake a second, slightly larger-scale project in the fall.

Community and Town Response

The town and community were highly impressed with the volunteer turnout and the project's success. This confidence has led to the town actively scouting for the next pollinator space, which is expected to be identified within the next eight weeks.

Social Event

To celebrate the project's success and foster community spirit, a social event barbecue will be hosted on the project site on May 30th. The Rotary will provide brats and drinks, and dozens of community members have committed to attending.

Follow-up Items

- **Scouts' "Take Home Plants":** Due to the high volunteer turnout, the scouts' "take home plants" were planted in the ground to maximize productivity. An order for giveaway plants will be placed tomorrow and delivered to the scoutmasters this week.
- **Informational Signage:** Orders for informational signs on the plants will be placed soon. We are also working with the town to approve a more decorative "Erei Rotary" sign to be placed at the project site.
- **Next Event Planning:** Planning for the next event in the fall has already begun.

Post-Execution Statistics and Images

- - Total Volunteers: 66+
- - Total Funds Raised: \$5300+
- - Project Duration: Half the anticipated time

The overwhelming support from the community and efficient budget management have set a solid foundation for future projects. We look forward to continuing our efforts in enhancing community spaces and fostering environmental conservation.









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