

HIDDEN SPRINGS COMMUNITY FARM 2018



WHAT DID WE GROW IN 2018?

Raspberries	Arugula	Okra
Blackberries	Lettuce	Cucumbers
Rhubarb	Chard	Tomatoes
Asparagus	Kale	Tomatillos
Garlic	Radishes	Peppers
Herbs	Beets	Eggplant
Shelling peas	Carrots	Summer squash
Snap peas	Leeks	Winter squash
Snow peas	Green Beans	Corn
Spinach	Yellow Beans	Flowers



NEW IN 2018

- Longer and varied u-pick season – rhubarb, peas, decorative corn and beans in the summer raising over \$1,000 in 2018 (up from \$200 in 2017)!
- Use of “The Sign” to promote farm activities.
- Farm apprentices to ensure the long term sustainability of the farm - we have recruited volunteers to learn about irrigation, bees, row crop harvest and u-pick.
- Walnut trees
- Blackberries
- New varieties of squash and tomatoes
- Compost tea from HS Farm compost
- Children’s garden make over



THE FARM GROUP

All residents of Hidden Springs are welcome at all farm events at any time.

Active members who volunteer for at least 2 hours a week are offered a share of the weekly harvest. We have 130 people on our Farm Facebook page and e-mail list. A typical farm work evening will draw 20 adults and several children. Our u-pick evenings often brought another 35 families out to the farm.

As of October 15th farm volunteers have donated 1,971 hours of time.



HIDDEN SPRINGS FARM LEADERSHIP

Chair - Linda Beasley

Irrigation - Bruce Shaffley and Kevin Dow, 2019 apprentice Garry Stanislaw

Herbs and flowers - Sharon Halvorsen and Laurel Dow

Harvest Monitor - Sharon Halvorsen and Laurel Dow, 2019 apprentice Stacy Olmstead

Row crops - Linda Beasley

U-pick - Donna Benbenek and Cheryl Cook, 2019 apprentice Cara Stanislaw

Children's Activities - Rachel Diehl and Linda Sue Shelton

Weed control - Kevin Dow

Bees - Randy Hurst

Compost - Randy Hurst

Consultant - Heidi Wagner

Berries - Sallie Morse and Bruce Shaffley

Deer fence - Kevin Dow

Tool maintenance - Bruce Shaffley and Rich McBride

Farm/DCHS liason - Cheryl Cook



HIDDEN SPRINGS FARM COMMITTEE

Chair-Linda Beasley

Donna Benbenek

Cheryl Cook

Laurel Dow

Sharon Halvorsen

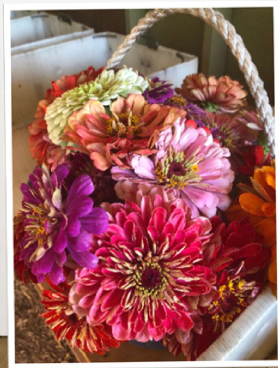
Randy Hurst

Sallie Morse

Bruce Shaffley

Linda Sue Shelton

Heidi Wagner



FARM AND COMMUNITY

- Donated rhubarb DCHS farmhouse opening day.
- Donated flowers for the Treasure Valley Land Trust dinner and the Old Time Farm Day event.
- Hosted visitors at the pumpkin patch, corn maze and farm shed at Old Time Farm Day
- Hosted the first annual Pumpkin Smashing event at the farm as a fundraiser for DCHS
- Hosted a tour and pumpkin picking for HSES kindergarten students.
- Donated pumpkins and corn stalks to the school for various classroom projects.
- Smart Start preschool students are regular visitors at the farm.
- Donated surplus produce to the Idaho food bank and Garfield Elementary School food pantry.

2019

- The farm is an amenity for Hidden Springs residents - The community farm is not just part of the founding principals but a continuation of the 150 years of farming in the Dry Creek Valley.
- 2019 marks the fourth year of farm under the current model with decision making by active members of the farm group supported by the HSTA.
- Working with Fish and Game to identify deer fencing options to reduce crop loss.
- On the advice of Ada County Extension implementing a three year crop rotation for areas infested with pests.
- Recruiting farm apprentices to learn essential tasks for the long term sustainability of the farm.



2019

- Continue to expand u-pick.
- Hopkins installing additional irrigation and assisting with seasonal issues.
- HSTA will resume responsibility for the Hidden Springs pumpkin patch.
- HSTA searching for a part-time hourly employee to replace Bruce Shaffley.
- Idaho Botanical Garden has chosen to showcase the community farm in their 2019 Garden Tour



THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Making the Hidden Springs Community Farm a success is a team effort. We would like to thank:

- HSTA and the Town Council for supporting Hidden Springs Community Farm.
- Lisa Ahrens and the HSTA office staff for always thinking of the farm, for saying “yes”.
- Our teen farm site crew for their hard work and for reminding us how wonderful our HS teens can be.
- Cindy and Joe Ulch for trapping over 30 gophers.
- All the members of the community who bring their kitchen scraps, their leaves, their grass clippings and their branches to be turned into compost for the farm.
- The many community members who have donated tools and supplies to the farm.
- DCHS for their partnership in 2018.