



## **Poncha Springs Community Garden**

The Community Garden provides an opportunity for people of all ages to grow a garden while beautifying the community and offering educational programming on garden-related topics.

Please contact Town of Poncha Springs at 539-6882 if you would like to sign up for a community garden plot. The plots are on a first come first serve basis.

### **Community**

Community gardens are as much about cultivating community as they are about cultivating plants. So the Poncha Springs Community Garden provides an opportunity to grow more than just flowers and vegetables, participants develop a sense of community through involvement.

### **Space for a Garden**

The Poncha Springs Community Garden began its first season in April of 2011. The Community Garden mission is to provide space for Poncha Springs citizens to garden together – to create a shared vision, to work collaboratively, and to cultivate a place for individuals, families and friends to learn about and to experience the rewards of gardening.

The garden is located at Hulbert and Palmer in Poncha Springs. Organizers and volunteers will clear and clean the site with the support of Town Staff, Elected Officials and town equipment. Local merchants (Poncha Lumber) have donated a variety of materials that were needed to develop the site. Poncha Springs received grant funding from Monarch Community Outreach and Chaffee County LiveWell for materials. Volunteers donated time and materials toward construction/development of the garden site.

-  The garden is open year round, with a planting season of May through October in most years.
-  Vegetables and annual flowers may be grown.
-  Organic principles of gardening are followed (no chemical pesticides, fertilizers, or herbicides are used).
-  Plots are available for individuals or groups for a fee of \$40.00 per season. Water is included in the fee and gardeners are expected to comply with town water regulations.
- Gardeners are expected to provide their own gardening tools and supplies. Soil amendments will be developed through the Community Garden's composting program.
-  The Poncha Springs Community Garden is a gated facility in order to protect the gardens from vandalism and animal damage.
-  Plots are assigned on a first come, first served basis. A waiting list starts in January each year.

## Learning Experiences

In addition to providing garden space, the Community Garden will offer garden related classes and activities during the summer months. Volunteers to instruct classes are needed – contact Town Hall 539-6882.



## Relationships

Participating in a community garden can be a unique and wonderful experience. Community gardens are ideal for people without their own space, but even people who have their own land enjoy the community spirit that can be felt when people plant together.