



The People's Garden: Forest Recovery Project

Japanese barberry is a highly invasive forest species that has been identified on tribal lands. KBIC is removing this invasive and planting native species which have been requested from our Traditional Clinic in the past and will do well here. There are also pollinator friendly species that have been recommended by our USFS partnership that have been included to help local pollinators. Our hope is to provide biodiversity to this site and make it an easily accessed area for future gathering.



Seed Orchard and Pollinator Plots: Local Seed Source/Habitat Project

There are many land disturbing projects ongoing on our reservation such as roads, buildings, landscaping, and restoration. KBIC recognizes the importance of having a local seed supply for plants that do well in disturbed areas, are pollinator-friendly, and provide competition to invasive species. As part of our Zaagkii partnership, several grass and wildflower species were suggested that would do well in these types of projects. An added benefit is the pollinator habitat the seed orchard provides which assists the community garden. There are also cultural significant plants requested by our Traditional Clinic that are included for gathering purposes.





The People's Garden, Hoophouse, Small and Fruit Orchard, and Beehives: Food Sovereignty Project

Food sovereignty is that state of being in which our community is able to have a safe, culturally acceptable, nutritional adequate diet through a sustainable food system that promotes community self-reliance and social justice. In 2012 the Tribal Council approved the beginning of a community and demonstration garden off Brewery Road as part of an Ojibwa Permaculture Project. The Natural Resources Department has been working with other tribal departments, MSU extension service, KBOCC, and the Community to facilitate the establishment of individual garden plots, community plots, small fruit crops, fruit orchard, perennial vegetables, and a demonstration hoophouse. Our goal is to provide assistance to enable the community to grow and preserve nutritional organic foods for themselves, to share, and for local marketing. Tribal Youth Conservation Crews assist our Plants Program in the seasonal care of this area and the Communal Projects. The People's Garden has 20 individual plots for families to utilize and the potential for more fenced in areas if needed. The fruit orchard contains 23 apple, 14 pear, 10 plum, 12 cherry, and 7 chokecherry trees as well as 4 serviceberry. The small fruit orchard contains a strawberry, blackberry, and raspberry patch in a larger fenced area and smaller numbers within the hoophouse. There are also grapes and a small patch of asparagus and rhubarb. There are two beehives set up nearby for pollinator educational purposes and as a source of honey.

