# The People's Garden, Hoop House, Small Fruits and Tree 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, nutritionally 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 tree orchard, native perennials, vegetable garden, and a demonstration hoop house. Our goal is to provide assistance to enable the community to grow and preserve nutritional organic foods for themselves, for sharing, and for local marketing. Tribal Youth Conservation Crews assist our Plants Program in the seasonal care of this area and the community 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, 7 chokecherry and 4 serviceberry trees. The small fruits orchard contains strawberry, blackberry, and raspberry patches within a larger fenced area and smaller numbers within the hoop house. There are also grapes and a small patch of asparagus and rhubarb. There are three beehives set up nearby for pollinator educational purposes and as a source of honey.





For more information please contact the KBIC Natural Resources Department 906-524-5757 http://nrd.kbic-nsn.gov



### **Medicinal Site:**

## Forest Recovery Project



Japanese barberry is a highly invasive forest species that has been identified on tribal lands. KBIC-NRD is removing this invasive shrub and planting native plant species in their place. These plants have been requested by our Traditional Clinic 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 ongoing land-developing projects on our reservation such as road expansion, building construction, 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 for these restoration projects. An added benefit is the pollinator habitat the seed orchard provides which in turn assists the health and productivity of the community garden. There are also culturally significant plants requested by our Traditional Clinic that are included for gathering purposes.







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