

HARVEST Report



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF THE BEMIDJI AREA

FALL 2026
OCT 2025 - SEPT 2026



GARDEN HISTORY

- **2006:** One raised bed: "Pizza Garden"
- **2007-2011:** Installed one additional raised bed each year
- **2012:** Added 1,500 sq ft high tunnel
- **2016:** Extension of outdoor garden including: 15 additional raised beds; 2,000 sq ft paver section; built seven large picnic tables; youth painted and installed tires for potato beds
- **2017:** Added irrigation to raised beds, outdoor washing station, Eagle Scout/Home Depot Team built pergola and benches to complete outdoor gardening education center
- **2021:** Secured three hydroponic indoor growing towers and built a new garden storage shed
- **2022:** Fourth hydroponic unit added
- **2023:** Added more perennial plants to attract pollinators
- **2025:** Aquaduct and water retention tank added to capture and store rainwater; replacement of all raised beds to improve safety and usability; began land prep for Native Garden
- **2026:** 1,000 native plants were planted in our parking lot swales creating a habitat for pollinators and a new outdoor hands-on learning space; art panels painted by Club kids were added to shed & water tank



2,000+
Pounds were harvested by
100+
Club youth!



OUR PRODUCE

Onions Eggplant PUMPKINS
 Celery POTATOES HERBS
 Peas CAULIFLOWER SQUASH
 CARROTS Rhubarb Asparagus
 Cabbage Peppers CORN Cucamelons
 TOMATOES Broccoli Zucchini Garlic
 Cucumbers Cantaloupe Beans Broccolini
 Strawberries Lettuce Ground Cherries

KIDS
 HARVESTED
 VEGGIES
 FOR THEIR
 SALAD BARS
 AT THEIR
 SCHOOLS!



OUR PARTNERSHIPS

- **Beltrami County Development Fund:** grant for seeds, supplies, and equipment to support comprehensive agricultural program
- **Hill's Country Greenhouse:** donated plants, seeds, and pots
- **ISD#31:** partnered and purchased hydroponic lettuce and garden produce to provide students nutritious veggies for school lunches
- **Knife River Materials:** donated water tank for a sustainable watering system
- **Volunteers:**
 - Bemidji State University students & BSU Alumni & Foundation
 - Community Donors: built and replaced all new raised beds
 - Community Members: helped replace the damaged high tunnel roof from the 2025 storm; helped plant native plants in our swales
- **Minnesota Native Landscape & Beltrami Soil & Water Conservation District:** provided native pollinator consultation, planning, and funding to purchase 1,000 native pollinator plugs
- **Beltrami Co. Master Gardeners:** pollinator education, family night & "Childrens Garden in Residence" curr.
- **MN Dept of Agriculture:** support through the Urban Agriculture grant

OUR GARDEN SPACE

High Tunnel - 24' X 60': 1,440 sq ft
Garden Bed Area - 25 raised beds: 9,800 sq ft
Fruit Tree Corridor - 3,500 sq ft
 3 plum, 1 cherry, 2 crabapple, and 5 apple
Hydroponic Units - 4 units that each grow 144 heads of lettuce approximately every 40 days
Native Pollinator Landscaping - 4400 sq ft

NATIVE GARDEN UPDATE

Community volunteers, along with Club youth and their families planted 1,000 native plants in our parking lot swales, creating an important habitat for bees, birds, and butterflies. The new Native Garden will also provide a hands-on learning space where Club members can explore nature and learn about the importance of this ecosystem.