



Website Updates:

- Closing Event Program*
- Project Workbooks*
- Year 5 Quarterly Reports*
- Mid-Year Reports*
- Video Production Workbook*

Follow-Up of Mid Year Meeting:

- Goals:*
- A news article in June.*
- Attend Closing Event*

Highlights:

- NICC Gardens – 1*
- Closing Event – 2*
- Video Award - 2*
- Partner News- 2*
- ISU Tree – 3*

NRE Partners:

- FBCC**
- ISU**
- NICC**
- NDSU**
- SBC**
- SGU**
- SDSU**
- UNL**

USDA IFAFS GRANT 2001-2005

Cooperative Garden Projects for the Santee and Macy Communities

By Chris Zdorovtsov

Gardens were planted at the beginning of May across the Nebraska Indian Community College (NICC) campuses. Both individual garden plots and a large community garden were installed. This is the 2nd year of the community garden located by Lindy, NE near the Santee campus.

The garden projects were headed up by Hank Miller and Jim Hallum at NICC to promote the importance of healthy lifestyles, lifelong learning and community involvement. Chris Zdorovtsov of South Dakota State University directed the garden planning and installation.

At Iowa State University (ISU), Paula Teig and Barb Osborn developed a class for ISU Horticulture students to provide a cultural, active-learning based experience while assisting NICC in establishing their 2006 gardens. The students were responsible for growing and caring for the transplants as well as participating in the planting of the crops at NICC.

The community garden contains over 60 vegetable varieties including sweet and hot peppers, heirloom tomatoes, herbs, rhubarb, and asparagus. The crops will be sold at a farmer's market stand in South Yankton, NE.

The garden will be grown using organic methods. This includes avoiding chemical spraying and using insect deterring crops. For example, hyssop was interplanted with broccoli and cauliflower plants because hyssop is said to control cabbage moths. Nasturtiums and catnip were planted with the potatoes as they are thought to control Colorado Potato Beetles. If ineffective, the beetles will be picked off by hand or a microbial biological product that controls certain leaf-feeding beetles will be used.



NICC, assisted by SDSU and ISU staff and students, planted community and individual gardens in early May at Macy (above) and Santee.

Beyond the main community garden, 20 small plots as well as fruit and shade trees were installed at the homes of individuals in the Macy and Santee areas. The gardeners are invited to attend a series of workshops put on by Hank and Chris. The next workshop to be held in June will focus on natural methods of insect control.

Fourteen Iowa State and South Dakota State students and faculty helped NICC faculty with the installation of the gardens. In addition to the gardening, students enjoyed eating traditional meals and experiencing a sweat lodge.



At the NICC Lindy community garden, students plant nasturtiums and catnip along the potato row to control Colorado Potato Beetles.

NRE REPORTING

Year 5, Quarter 2 Reports were due May 1. The last quarter report, Year 5 – Quarter 3 is due Aug. 1.

Hold these Dates
June 29- July 1: Closing
Event, SBC

NICC Garden Diversion



Quinten and Chris found beautiful mushrooms!

Send your news for the next newsletter to Mary M. de Baca

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NRE on the Web
<http://ifafsnrp.ag.iastate.edu/>

Submit project workbook and photos for the web to Jason at
Jason_Decker@hotmail.com

Plan To Participate In NRE Closing Event

If you haven't made your lodging and transportation arrangements to attend the NRE Closing Event June 29-July 1 hosted by Sitting Bull College, now is the time to do so! Call Prairie Knights Casino at 1-800-425-8277 for reservations before June 5 – mention you are with the Sitting Bull College Natural Resources Education group.

The Closing Event will be a time for interaction, recognition, and appreciation.

Thursday evening, June 29 is the Inipi Ceremony at the sweat lodge at St. Bernard's Catholic Mission School in Fort Yates followed by a light meal.

Friday morning's meeting at Prairie Knights Lodge will include posters or power point presentations from each of the 8 partner institutions of their major accomplishments and the impact they have made in their schools and

communities. The USDA CSREES Video Magazine which features the NRE project will be shown, along with seeing updates on the Tribal College notebooks and the Natural Resource career DVD.

Friday afternoon includes hiking on the marina and interpretive trails and a tour of the new SBC campus. The evening program has been changed to attend the pow wow in McLaughlin.

Saturday morning is a time to show your appreciation to others through exchanges, certificates, and a final Talking Circle.

In closing about the NRE closing: Make reservations, pack clothing for sweat ceremony and pow wow, prepare your school's poster or presentation, and come celebrate!

Awards and Recognition for CSREES Communications

CSREES Communication Staff (CS) members won several awards in national competitions for Partners Video Magazine. ACE (Association for Communication Excellence) will recognize the CS team at its annual meeting in Quebec City, Canada, next month. The team includes Patrick Holian, producer of the Tribal Natural Resources video of the NRE project. They will receive the Gold Award for a Public Relations Campaign based on Partners products. Holian also won a Gold Award in the Informational Video category for Partners 12- "Pacific Land-Grant Institutions" episode. Read more at:

<http://www.csrees.usda.gov/newsroom/newsletters/update06/051706.html#admin>

Partner Activities

Sinte Gleska University

Sinte Gleska University is planting trees this week at Parma Lee community for wind barriers. The trees are black spruce and some berry trees. SGU provided about 500 trees and the training for planting and tree care, and members of the community are doing the planting. A couple years ago, 5000 trees were planted. several of them at the SGU Ranch.

Fort Berthold Community College

The nature path is moving along swiftly. Unfortunately, we are going to have to do our tree planting ceremony a little spontaneously because this month is crazy! We are swamped in student learning assessment here at FBCC in light of our last HLC visit.

Tree Planting Commemorates Tribal College Project

A tree was planted May 22 near the front steps of Curtiss Hall to recognize five years of work and partnership between Iowa State and seven other land-grant tribal colleges and state universities. The USDA-funded Natural Resources Education project enhanced natural resource academic and community programs. Similar commemorative tree-planting ceremonies will be held at each of the other partner institutions in the project. Accomplishments of the project have been many, but the most important, said Harold Crawford, co-director and Hank Miller NRE instructor at Nebraska Indian Community College, have been in building trust and relationships among the partnering institutions. Associate Dean Gerald Miller, project co-director; Mary de Baca, project manager; and Wendy Wintersteen, Dean of the College of Agriculture also spoke.



ISU planted NRE commemorative tree on campus

The newly planted Triumph Elm tree is a hybrid with resistance to Dutch elm and other diseases, will have yellow leaves in the fall and will grow to 40 feet or more. Mary de Baca spoke of the need for tree planting that was frequently mentioned during the "talking circles" held with leaders, elders, and students in tribal college communities at the beginning of the project.

In his remarks, Harold Crawford said the elm is symbolic at Iowa State because it will provide diversity to the trees of campus; it will branch out and establish roots just as other College of Agriculture programs are doing; and it will be a signpost to remind people of the partnerships nurtured with the tribal colleges, which also are serving their communities in the land-grant tradition.



Jerry Miller and Harold Crawford, NRE Co-Directors, present the Triumph Tree certificate to Wendy Wintersteen, Dean of the College of Agriculture, ISU.



Hank Miller, Nebraska Indian Community College NRE Instructor, spoke of the trust established in working relationships between the Tribal Colleges and the 1862 land-grants.



Mary de Baca quoted students, professionals, and elders from the NRE needs assessment Talking Circles regarding the need to reestablish trees in Tribal College communities.

