

# Landscape

## *2022 -Landscape/Turf & Groundcover related activities*

1. Pest management
2. Natural planting program
3. Mowing Schedule
4. Walking paths
5. Street/Downtown Core/Streetscaping
6. Multi-function features
7. Integrated natural landscaping
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12. Signage
13. Playgrounds
14. Community Gardens
15. Community Orchard
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  - Stettler Elementary School
17. Volunteer maintenance and landscape beautification
18. Education

### Attachments:

- Year of the Garden
- Trail and sidewalk distances

## Landscape / Turf & Groundcover

Climatic challenges (typically dry conditions in most years and atypical extremely wet conditions in 2010 & 2011 and in 2016) and some significant soil limitations (solonetzic and high pH soils) give Town of Stettler Parks & Recreation staff and community residents a challenge in plant selection and survival, particularly for trees. Stettler has numerous old treed areas, many parks and green spaces, which are integrated into the framework of the community, making Stettler a beautiful oasis in the prairies.

**NEW** In 2022, parks and green spaces were rated one of the top 5 in the Town of Stettler strategic plan. A committee has been formed to put focus on these areas.

### **1. Pest Management**

A dandelion control program is in place. A contractor is hired annually for two sprays per season. Occasional spot chemical applications are made as required. Areas where chemicals are applied are marked. Scouting for noxious weeds in parks is carried out, with spot treatments applied as required.

### **2. Natural planting program**

With landscaping projects, as much as possible, native or drought resistant plant species are chosen, in order to enhance survival. In all cases, only hardy plants are grown. Some non-woody perennial or annual plants are grown in permanent beds.



All landscaped beds around the town are mulched with wood chips, to conserve moisture and prevent weed growth. Many integrate benches or are adjacent to extensive hard surface walking paths.

*Mixed permanent bed*



Mulched beds are a part of natural planting strategy

### ***3.Mowing schedule***

Grassed areas are maintained regularly, with frequency of mowing determined by use patterns and requirements. Where possible, areas are not mowed, so as to leave natural areas. Sports fields are mowed at 2.5” and the parks are mowed at 3”. Sports parks are aerated and fertilized every year in the early spring. A TORO mower with a wider deck was purchased, and has decreased the number of man-hours needed for mowing. A specialized mower was purchased for the cemetery, which significantly reduced labour of mowing around the grave sites.

### ***4.Walking paths***

Many kilometers of asphalt walking/biking paths run across Stettler, connecting the majority of the town, from the cemetery in the Southeast to West Stettler Park in the West. The number of pathways is being expanded annually. Pathways have grass borders and trees are placed along them to add interest and beauty. There are enclosed garbage cans and benches positioned regularly. Priorities are to connect previously difficult to reach parts of town. New pathways are budgeted for almost every year.



### ***5. Main Street / Downtown Core / Streetscaping***

The main street of Stettler is beautified using both ground level and hanging basket planters, combined with various street trees that are starting to grow in size. Baskets contain a range of plant material, to draw the eye and create interest. New planters and beds are gradually being installed at newly designed crosswalks, as these areas are installed. In 2018, one of the large planters was filled with day neutral strawberries, rather than flowers.

The Town of Stettler is budgeting for Main Street streetscaping every year until it is complete, although it is being done by component parts in some areas, to reduce the level of disturbance and disruption. Trees are being replaced and repair work is done regularly. Businesses pay for a portion of the frontage costs. Gradually, older buildings are being torn down or renovated and businesses are renovating their fronts. The last few years have seen a number of **businesses on Main Street get a facelift.**

The joint Town of Stettler / Clearview Public School Division office building (2009) provides the example for main street development, with a larger green footprint/shadow on the property, being set back off the sidewalk to provide larger green areas around businesses.

Some sidewalks are being installed in a railway theme (many downtown sidewalks have the railway track pattern). A number of new crosswalk “bulbs” have been developed, with the new railroad sidewalk design.



**Joint Town of Stettler / Clearview Public School Office**



*Crosswalk bulbs and sidewalk replaced— railway design*



*Revitalized parking lot—mulched beds and wrought iron light standards*

## **6. Multi-function features**

Reflecting the climatic realities of the town, many of the newly developed areas (such as the new sports fields or new developments in North neighborhood subdivisions) are built to function as snow or water retention ponds or drainage basins in wet periods, but also serve a beautification or other use purpose. They have mulched, treed beds on the periphery, but have ponds in the bottom as well, rather than being simple grassed areas. The pathways in some areas (Meadowlands subdivision – south Stettler) serve as pathways and storm water runoff channels.



*Pathways serve as walkways and storm water channels*



*Multipurpose snow/water retention ponds*

A number of parks are used for a range of purposes depending on the season. The open green space of several parks is mowed for use in the summer and then serves as open ice-skating rinks in the winter.

**NEW** The town has started utilizing the roadway through the campground in the winter to create a skating oval. The outdoor arena was previously used for a skatepark in the summer months but now it is used for pickleball or roller hockey.



*Outdoor rink used to be skatepark in summer*



*Roads through campground transformed into skating oval in winter*

## 7. Integrated Natural Landscaping

**Highways 12 and 56 Intersection Pergola** – the intersection of 2 highways has limited aesthetic features and there are strict provincial department limitations on what can be done in the area. To improve the visual appeal of the site, a **pathway** was installed across the green space and a pergola frame was placed on the site. Picking up on the “Heart of Alberta” theme, the **mulched bed is heart shaped** and has native trees and shrubs. A **heart-shaped stone/brick pad** is within the pergola and there is a bench to sit on. The pergola pillars have **stone/brick bases**. Flower baskets are hung during the season. The pergola is connected to the walking/biking pathway network.



*Pergola at the intersection of highway 12 and 56*

## 8. West Stettler Park

West Stettler Walking/biking paths wind through grassed areas with a limited number of natural trees and circle around the edge of a man-made lake/pond. The lake/pond is actually a storm retention pond and drainage basin and is connected to the canal / creek system that flows through the town. It was stocked with fish around 20 years ago (year-round using an aeration system) and has several catch and release fishing areas/platforms for use by the public (during allowed seasons). The fish have thrived without having to add more.

The **majority** of the park’s grassed areas are **not mowed (80% natural)**, but are maintained to encourage natural growth of trees and grasses, allowing tree seedlings and **natural “groves”** to develop. When trees grow well in a particular area, the undergrowth is encouraged and beds are mulched with recycled wood chip mulch, to conserve moisture and to cut down on weed growth. After a time, the undergrowth is tidied up, but the overall grove remains intact

The natural mowing strategy creates mowed strips along pathways and in designated areas (e.g. in front of the gazebo). The remainder of the park is left to grow longer, filling in with native, hardy shrubs and other perennial species. .



*LED light standard*



The hill (used for tobogganing in the winter and general amusement the rest of the year) was constructed from the soil dug out to create the pond.



*West Stettler Park– hill*

Paths are used year-round, day and night by many residents and community visitors. Solar lighting along the pathways was under investigation for several years. Instead of solar, a large number of LED standards were installed in 2016/2017. Several bridges traverse the canals or “inlets” of the pond.

A raised gazebo is used for weekly entertainment and other community events. The gazebo looks out over the pond and has removable wind screens.

*Gazebo*



*Hill and pond*

## *Berm system and planting trees*

To combat the poor soil conditions, man-made berms are built up and hardy trees are planted in the tops. This allows the roots to grow undisturbed above the poor soil layers, with the hope that the trees will survive longer. Bermed areas are integrated into, and surround, activity areas such as a water spray park.



*Berm system*

## **9. Other Parks**

**Rotary Spray Park** – This flat surface water park uses less water and is surrounded by sheltering raised berms, with woody plant material.

**Off-leash Dog Park** – This Park is situated on a site that was previously a town nursery site, located on the edge of the eastern industrial area. It was returned to a wild/natural state and now has mowed/mulched pathways and is fenced. Community volunteers / dog park users spread mulch on the pathways and have installed dog exercise equipment. Donated benches are incorporated throughout the several-acre site. An information sign was added in 2012 and a mural poster was installed in the summer of 2013.



*Off-leash dog park*



**Rotary Millennium Tree Park** – Planted in 2000 using a wide diversity of seedlings, with some large landscape rocks included to add height in the initial years. This large treed area (several acres) was mulched and left to grow up naturally, with some pathways cut over time. Semi-hidden pathways wind through the shaded undergrowth, with fruit trees close by for the wanderers to pick. It is maintained by volunteers and town staff, with minimal maintenance requirements.





*Millennium  
Tree Park*



**Memorial Park** - The **metal gazebo** was powder coated in late 2013 and **revitalization of the park** was completed in late summer/fall 2014, with the shale and landscape fabric being removed by students from the high school and completed by a contractor. The shale was replaced by bark mulch. Pruning was carried out to open up the view into the park, to reduce inappropriate activities in the park, and reduce vandalism. (see Heritage Conservation)

**Threshing machine** – to reflect the pioneer and agricultural heritage of Stettler, and to direct people to the Stettler Town and County Museum, a vintage threshing machine was placed in Pioneer Park. It is annually surrounded with a planting of wheat.

### ***10. Sports Fields***

There are a number of sports fields (soccer, softball) situated around Stettler. They are widely used from April through to the fall for local league play and tournaments.

**Stettler Sports Park** - was completed in 2010, with usage starting in 2011. This facility was built to replace existing fields on non-town properties. It features 4 completed baseball diamonds and 2 soccer pitches. The soccer pitches were used for 1 year and were then closed and were rebuilt in 2011 and were reopened in 2013. A concrete washroom house was built in 2014. Total cost for the sports park is approximately \$1.1 million. \$330,000 was raised by fundraising over several years, with donations received from public and commercial sources. Plaques/tiles were sold in 2010 and 2011, with installation of the tiles when the building was completed (2015). Many of the amenities were donated. Additional funds were received from a provincial grant and from allocated town budgets. Businesses donated trees and materials to build several beds in this area (2015/2016)

These facilities have increased our ability to offer higher class events and attract tournaments.



*West Stettler ball diamond*



*Sports park baseball diamonds  
and soccer pitches*

**Running Track Resurfacing Project** – originally built in the early 1990’s, the running track has seen a significant amount of use over the decades and was well worn. The collaboration between several levels of government and partnership between various groups allowed the track to be resurfaced in 2019. (see Heritage Conservation)

**Motocross Park** – The land is leased from the town to the private club. They operate events and also partner with the R/C Racers club. The land is located adjacent to the Transfer Station.

**Tennis Courts** – located by the school complex. The courts are maintained by Tennis Club, but are open to public use. **New directional signage** was purchased by the HBC and was installed in 2013.

**Skateboard Park** – originally, skateboard facilities were restricted to a converted outdoor ice rink adjacent to the Stettler Recreation Centre. Ground breaking for Phase 1 of the Skateboard Park took place in early July 2014 and construction was completed in late 2014. Phase 2 was completed in August 2021.



Stettler Skate

## Second Phase of the Stettler Skatepark expansion approved

The expansion is funded in partnership with the Stettler Skatepark Association

Jan. 28, 2021 2:50 p.m. / [LOCAL NEWS](#) / [NEWS](#)



Stettler Town council has unanimously approved the expenditure of \$223,000 for the second-phase expansion of the Stettler Skatepark, with \$160,100.45 coming from the 2021 Capital Budget and \$62,899.55 contributed by the Stettler Skatepark Association.

This phase will include the addition of a bowl, among other smaller features.



## 11. Bridges and Canals

Stettler has a number of canals that crisscross the town. These are integrated into the parks and green spaces, with natural and artificial systems being combined.

## 12. Signage

### Directional Signs

As Stettler is a town, it **does not have control of the highways** that pass N/S and E/W through the town, which can create challenges to directing visitors and new residents to facilities located around the town. Over the past several years, the Beautification committee, as well as town staff and community groups and businesses have purchased numerous **highway directional signs** to facilities such as the Town & County Museum, New Sports Park, Stettler Recreation Centre, AgriPlex, Alberta Prairie Railway Excursions, Tennis Courts, etc.



Directional Signage



Information Signage



### Information Signs

A number of **information sign boards** were built and installed, including one in West Stettler Park (for community event information), one on the shed at the 1<sup>st</sup> Community Garden (gardening rules, information, calendar events, etc.) and one at the off-leash dog park (information for Friends of the Dog Park – dog park users). Another is in place at the Lake View Cemetery. A **Mural Art Contest** was held in 2013 and the top three (voted) selections were chosen to be placed as art on the back of each of the signs (WSP, Cemetery, Off-

### Entrance signs

As a part of regular planning and in response to community requests, it was determined by Town Council that **entrance signs** needed to be updated. They undertook a community consultation process, to allow community residents to select a design for the new signs. An on-line poll had 326 votes (5% of population), with 54% of the votes for the top design. Signs were installed in the summer/fall of 2011. Total cost for the 4 signs from town budgets was estimated at \$101,870 (\$25,467/sign). A grant for \$25,000 was received from Canadian Badlands. **Landscaping** of the areas around the entrance signs has a **natural look**, with hardy native species planted.



NEW

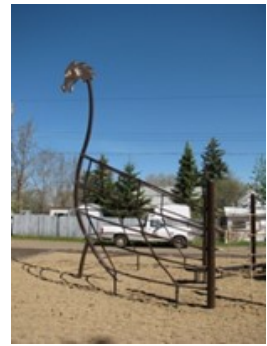
The communications committee is reworking the signage this year and we are hoping to include Stettler's CIB rating.

### 13. Playgrounds

There are a **number of playgrounds** situated throughout the different neighborhoods of Stettler. New playgrounds are added to fill gaps in neighborhoods (e.g. Viking Playground in east Stettler). Playground equipment is replaced as required and/or as funds are available, in a priority system. Most playgrounds feature green space, with graveled play areas. One playground utilized a recycled tire crumble in the place of gravel. Some playgrounds also feature outdoor basketball courts and other equipment. Most playgrounds were/are created with the financial support and donations of community service clubs (e.g. Kinsmen).



**Kinsmen Viking Park / Playground** – to fill a significant hole in the playground distribution in town a Viking ship themed playground was built in east Stettler. The playground was installed in late April 2011 and has been very well received to date. The cost of the playground was approximately \$100,000, with over half being raised by Stettler Kinsmen club, and significant in-kind labor being contributed.



A playground was developed for West Stettler Park, by the Spray Park, again through the efforts of the Kinettes/ Kinsmen of Stettler. Funding was achieved and the playground has been built.



Moush Sara John/Independent reporter  
Volunteers from the community helped in the building of the new playground at the West Stettler Park. The playground has been in operation since Monday, Oct. 26.

## Stettler's new playground, KIN Park, ready for play

MOUSH SARA JOHN  
INDEPENDENT REPORTER

Stettler's new playground at the West Stettler Park has been in operation since its inauguration Monday, Oct. 26.

One of Stettler Kinette Club's major projects this year, the facility was successfully funded and completed with the help of the community and volunteers.

"Once the playground equipment was delivered we had to unpack it and start putting it together, but as there were lots and lots of projects of all sizes that we needed to build, there was always something for every volunteer to help with," said Allison Baird, social director of the Kinette Club of Stettler. "We started

by digging 108 holes for the base structure, put all the individual pieces together around the project and then we stood everything up in the holes and screwing it together."

On the final day of the installation, they had to concrete each of the holes. A couple of weeks later the Kinette Club had a company come in and pour in a five-inch thick base of recycled tire.

"We are extremely happy by how this has turned out, and though there are some pathways and landscaping that is still required to be finished, it can be done by the time spring comes to give the surround site a much cleaner look," said Baird. "Our Kinette Club is very pleased that we were able to

get this project completed before the snow comes, and we worked extremely hard within our club and our community to raise the funds needed in just spent an entire day just screwing it together."

Speaking highly of the community and the volunteers who have contributed their time and efforts to make this a reality, Baird said, "Stettler and area always has the greatest volunteers. You can usually always count on businesses and or individuals to lend a hand through either a donation of money or a donation of labour to help reach a goal, and we were extremely lucky as we had so many people that wanted to help."

Some local businesses had even donated some of their employees to help with the

building during the process.

"We've heard lots and lots of very positive things regarding the new playground, especially because the playground is designed for ages zero and 12, making it accessible to different age groups," said Baird. "The biggest response is how excited members in the community are that there will be a place for the kids to play while social events or fitness events are happening at the park."

An official grand opening and barbecue is scheduled in the spring.

"Our club is also working on a permanent sign for the playground, named KIN Park, a great reminder of the awesome community businesses and individuals that helped us reach our goal," added Baird.



## 14. Community Gardens

NT COMMUNITY

Wednesday, June 6, 2012



RICHARD FROESE/Independent reporter  
Heartland Beautification Committee chairman Rob Spencer shows off a new sign in front of the Stettler Community Gardens.

## Growth spurt for Gardens

RICHARD FROESE  
Independent reporter

Stettler Community Gardens continues to grow in size and support. Heartland Beautification Committee planted its third season two weekends ago.

"We've got a lot of new and good ideas from neighbours (and) gardeners and added a lot of features from that," said Rob Spencer, who chairs the beautification committee and the gardens sub-committee.

"We want to make the space more beautiful, with a picnic table, a bench and other plants."

Starting with about 5,000 square feet in the first year, the garden has

now expanded to about 12,000 square feet, with space for resident gardens and to produce food for the Stettler and District Food Bank.

"We are full-up again in the community gardens," Spencer said.

This year, about 30 residents have acquired lots, with larger space in demand this year.

For the food bank, the volunteers planted plenty of leafy vegetables, such as spinach, lettuce, swiss chard, broccoli and other greens.

"We want to provide as much over a longer period," Spencer said.

Strawberries are expected to be available free for the picking this

harvest season. Fruit bushes, such as sour cherries and honey suckle and rhubarb, have also been planted.

This year, the garden has gained support from neighbours, schools and several businesses that provided seeds at discount prices.

"We've got almost every grade from Stettler schools, from kindergarten to Grade 11, who have contributed to the gardens this year," Spencer said.

Grade 2 students from Stettler Elementary School created row markers. In the coming weeks, the garden committee also plans to plant sunflowers around the perimeter of the gardens.

TILER INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY

Wednesday, May 30, 2012



RICHARD FROESE/Independent reporter  
LIFELINE — Young gardeners help water the Community Gardens last weekend as the popular attraction in the heart of Stettler held its official opening for this season.

## 14. Community Gardens

- Officially opened in May 2010, with approximately 5000 square feet of ground broken
- Due to interest and demand, gardens were expanded by approximately 3600 sq. ft. in the fall of 2010
- Further demand for spaces resulted in an additional expansion of 4400 sq. ft. in 2012
- Consultation with gardeners and other users of the site resulted in a number of additions and improvements to the site in 2012 – strawberry raised beds, fruit shrub areas, vines, etc.
- The original site reached a size limit (13,000) at the current site; therefore additional site locations were created
- Broke ground and set up a third site in Spring 2015, with 6000 square feet of space. **1/3 of the space is raspberry orchard and additional fruiting shrub border.** Water tank and signage installed, along with a lean-to shed for tools.
- **Additional 2000 square feet of space planted with fruiting shrubs** at the first community garden.
- Food Bank Donations of fresh vegetables throughout summer and fall
- Work is being done to improve the tidiness of the borders and prevent the encroachment of grasses as well as increasing the quality of the soil
- Garden plots are comprised of private garden plots for single season rental in a range of sizes
  - 10 ft. x 10 ft. (100 square feet) for \$5 each
  - 10 ft. x 22 ft. (220 square feet) for \$10 each
  - 22 ft. x 22 ft. (484 square feet) for \$20 each
  - 6 private raised planter beds (+ 1 demonstration bed)



## 15. Community Orchard

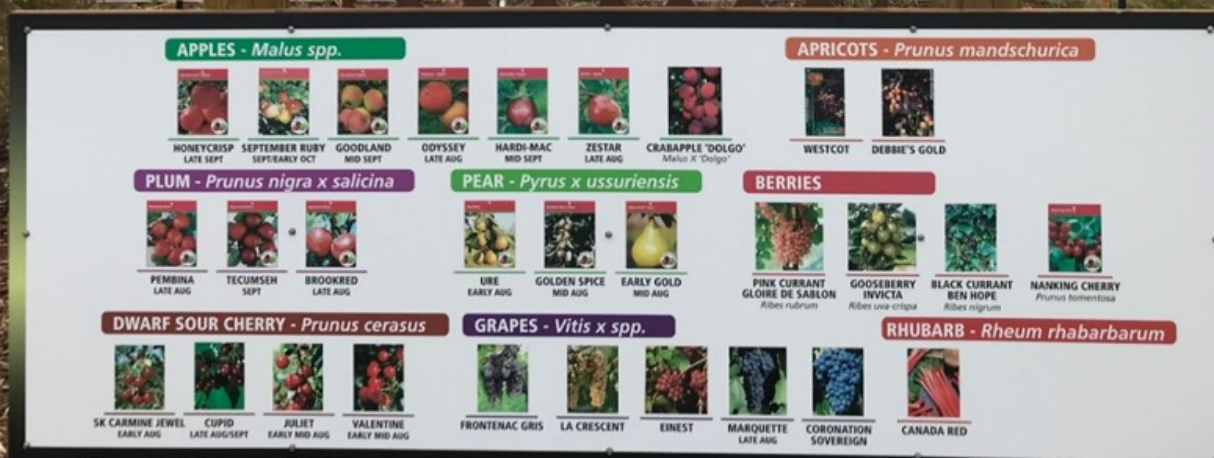
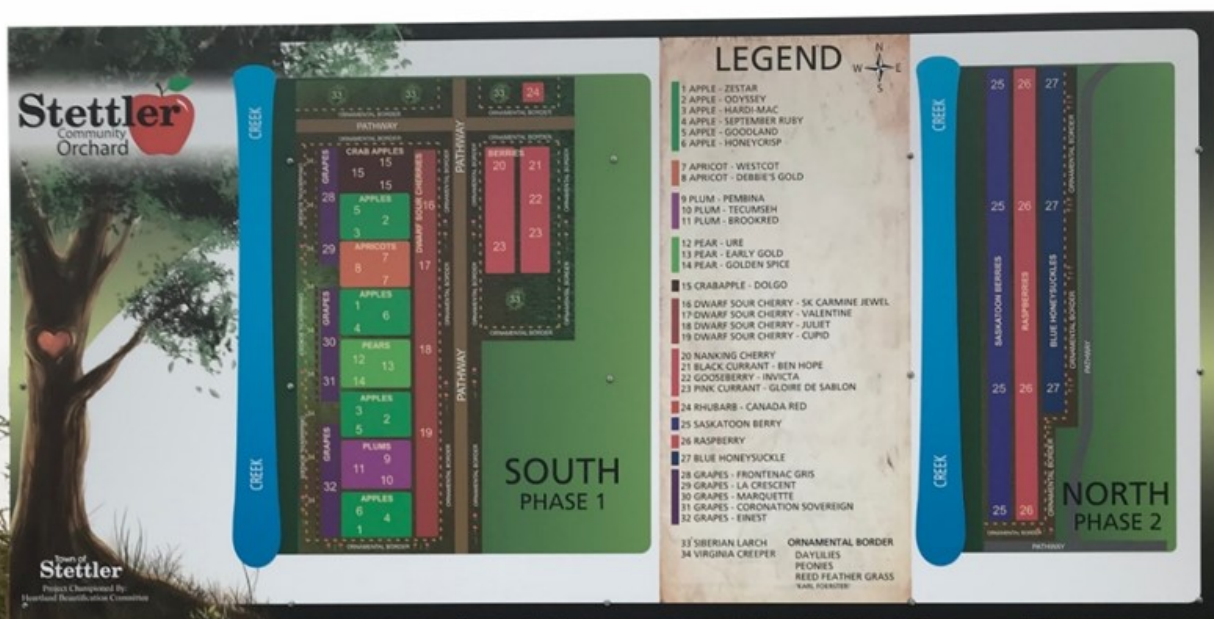
After years of dreaming of an orchard for the community (and it continually falling through due to lack of successful grants), we re-imagined the concept. An empty, bare greenspace adjacent to the mall was selected to be the site for a multi-purpose park/orchard. The orchard is built in 2 phases, comprising a total of 40,000+ square feet of space, including close to 2000 trees, shrubs and perennial flowers. The site is designed to work around buried utilities, with pathways and ornamental borders acting as utility access pathways. To deepen the soil profile (increasing by 1 to 2.5+ feet), the Town brought in 500 truckloads of topsoil to the site, from a site that required a snow dump location. Throughout late 2017 and early 2018, fundraising efforts were carried out, contacting local businesses, promoting the project to individuals, groups, organizations, and beyond. We applied for numerous grants, to pay for the massive project. Grants have been a challenge; we had several failed applications, but a TDFEF grant for \$10,000, in addition to incredible local support, has resulted in funds of over \$60,000 raised. Donors range from individuals to service clubs, organizations and businesses. Over 60+ donors contributed. Many local businesses contributed equipment and labour to carry out aspects of the project. Suppliers generously provided discounts to allow us to reach our goal. Phase 1 was completed in 2018, and Phase 2 completed in spring 2019.



The orchard was built and is maintained by community volunteers. Planting Parties and workbees are carried out from time to time, with some assistance from volunteer businesses, and support by TOS staff. Trees were initially watered by hand by volunteers and TOS staff until the irrigation was installed. Volunteers installed and run the drip system, as required, as well as fertilize, prune, etc.

The Community Orchard includes the following features:

- 540 hardy fruiting trees and shrubs, including multiple varieties of apples (2 each of 6 vars), pears (3 vars), plums (3 vars), crabapples (1 var), apricots (2 vars), dwarf sour cherries (4 cultivars), nanking cherries, black and pink currants, gooseberries, Saskatoon berries (2 cultivars), raspberries (3 cultivars), haskap/blue honeysuckle (2 cultivars), rhubarb and grapes (5 vars).
- 4 large Siberian larch and 30 Virginia creeper vines; 2 Wisteria vines; 1 hops; 2 clematis vines.
- A lattice fence on the west edge of Phase 1 (for the vines – grapes inside, Virginia creeper outside)
- ~1500+ perennial flowers/ornamentals, including peonies (6 named varieties, plus unnamed mixed colours), daylilies (18 varieties), Karl Foerster Reed Feather Grass in borders and pathway borders
- Drip irrigation for entire site
- Phase 2 has an additional ~300 perennial flowers (14 different daylilies, 3 colours of peony, 1 Veronica speedwell) in a border planting.
- The entire site is covered with bark mulch
- Map / Legend sign, along with pictures of all fruit and flower species for education; Additional information signage on pollinators and bats (Phase 2); Donor signage facing highway and walking pathways
- All trees and rows of fruit shrubs have plant marker stakes, to indicate varieties. Picture signage is used for the named perennials.
- The entire site is open to the public, with signs indicating picking rules. Excess produce will be supplied to the Food Bank.



## 16. Landscape Redesign Projects

### ***Stettler Middle School (SMS) and Stettler Elementary School (SES) School Greening Projects***

Several years ago, SMS and SES worked together to enhance the green spaces on the Stettler Complex site. A committee at each school was formed to represent the desires and needs of the students, staff and community. Representatives worked closely with Olds College Landscape Design students to come up with a design concept for the green space.

In the summer of 2013, the SMS installed wooden planters/bench seating and raised beds in their outdoor space. Additional phases of the plan have been installed since. The project and staff champions were recognized by HBC as Beautification Champion in 2015.





## ***Stettler Outdoor Space Revitalization Project (Grade 2 site)***

The staff, students and parent council at SES identified a need to collectively plan and revitalize an area of the school's outdoor play space. In 2012, when damaged and unsafe play equipment was removed from the site, an empty barren space was left behind, void of any plant material.

Through community consultation and discussion, a decision was made to convert the area into a community playground focusing on natural elements. A naturalized playground was identified and supported by students' request for trees, rocks, and paths and is also in line with current ideas of re-connecting children to nature as a positive and supportive behavior.

All children and families within the town of Stettler and surrounding area are able to enjoy this interactive and fun space, as it is accessible to anyone, at any time, throughout the year. The centrally located community site brings residents together to engage in play, experience the benefits of greenery and nature, as well as being a popular walking destination.

The naturalized play space includes a triple slide built into a berm including greenery, a horizontal climbing wall, perennial/tree beds, mulch and pea gravel for exploratory play, a climbing structure, rocks/boulders, a walking path, art boards, and an obstacle course.



**NEW**

The Stettler Elementary is turning an unused, unkept courtyard that is surrounded on 4 sides by the school building into a beautiful outdoor classroom space. Construction is presently underway with major donations and/or volunteer labour from Inter Pipeline, the Alberta Recycling Management Authority, the IODE, Volker Brothers Construction, Walker Tree Service, building construction students, staff members, Clearview School District Health & Wellness, School Board members and School Council members. The project was spearheaded by the school librarian who envisioned a pleasant yet sun-protected outdoor space to read with children. It will become an outdoor space that all classes have access to.



## ***17. Volunteer Maintenance and Landscape Beautification***

Many areas of the community are maintained by community volunteers, mowing and maintaining large public spaces in their neighborhood. In some public areas, residents practice Guerilla gardening, where they plant, landscape, develop and beautify public areas along alleyways, railroad track ditches and wide communal public areas that transition into untouched grassland/wooded areas.



## ***18. Education***

Stettler Adult Learning has offered various gardening related courses over the years. Stettler Public Library has compiled a list of their gardening materials and prepares a regular display annually, usually put up in May, to coincide with the Plant Swap and Community Gardens dates. In the past, HBC has partnered with the Public Library to offer a range of short workshops on gardening-related topics, featuring local experts. The focus was on practical and Q&A, with 6 workshops offered. In 2016 and 2017, 2 workshops were offered. In 2019, a practical pollinators workshop was held with a guest speaker, along with pollinator hotel construction for participants. The Stettler and District Ag Society has also put on pruning and other workshops for local area residents.

